

# The True Northerner.

## PAW PAW, MICHIGAN.

### THE LITTLE FOLKS.

#### Father at Play.

Such fun as we had one rainy day,  
When father was home and helped us play!  
We made a ship and hoisted sail,  
And crossed the sea in a fearful gale—  
But we hadn't sailed into London town  
When Captain and crew and vessel went down,  
Down, down in a jolly wreck,  
With the Captain rolling under the deck,  
But he broke out again with a lion's roar,  
And we on two legs, he on four,  
Stood on the parlor and up the stair,  
And frightened mamma and the baby there,  
So mamma said she'd be plowman now,  
And tried to rest us, she didn't know how,  
Then the lion laughed and forgot to roar,  
Till we chased him out of the nursery door;  
And then he turned to a pony gay,  
And carried us all on his back away,  
Whip, rattle, rattle, rattle, ho!  
If we hadn't fun, then I don't know!  
Till we tumbled off and he cantered on,  
Never stopping to see if his load was gone,  
And I couldn't tell any more than he,  
Which was Charlie and which was me,  
Or which was Towzer, for all in a mix,  
You'd think three people had turned to six,  
Till Towzer's tail was caught in the door,  
He wouldn't budge with us any more,  
And mamma came out with us to quiet,  
And told us a story to break up a riot,  
—*Yonah's Conversion.*

#### Lizzie's Adventure.

In the first place the wind was blowing almost a gale. Not the cold, biting wind that usually comes whistling down from the North pole as Christmas day draws near, but a mild wind blowing hard from the southwest, and trying its best to bluster, though not with the best success, for all that it had been able to accomplish was to send the gently-falling snow-lakes in a feathery whirlwind around the children's rosy faces as they ran home from school, and to blow good Deacon Tootle's hat around the corner, where the poor man had quite a chase to recover it. But finally this saucy wind, in its search for mischief, met little Lizzie Murray coming home from an errand over to her grandma's. And this was the errand, Lizzie's sister Mary, whose nimble fingers had been at work, as a great many nimble fingers are at work, for a long time before Christmas, preparing wonderful surprises for mamma, aunts and cousins, had just finished a nice chair cushion-cover for Aunt Ellen, and made the discovery that she had nothing to fill the cushion with; and Nora, the kind-hearted maid, who often came to the rescue when the children found themselves in a dilemma, now offered the timely suggestion that they "sind Lizzie over to yer grandmother's ather some hin-fithers." Now if this had not happened on the very morning that the mischievous south wind was out on a frolic, Lizzie would have had no adventure; but, be that as it may, she set off on her errand as happy as every dear little child that is thinks about long stockings stuffed so full of odd-shaped bundles that they look quite misshapen, and counts the fast-leseening days before Santa Claus comes. And Lizzie was thinking "only six days more," as she skipped along over the frozen snow, looking like a bright little red-bird in her scarlet stockings and mittens and scarlet-lined cape, and her black eyes and rosy cheeks and lips glowing under the red hood snugly under her chin. And Snip was at her heels. Snip was a little shaggy, black dog, that went everywhere that Lizzie did.

Grandma had the feathers, of course. Grandma was one of those dear old ladies that always seem to have what one wants when in a quandary. Her cozy old house was filled with odds and ends that many would think not worth saving, but Grandma could see a use that they might be of to somebody, some time.

So Lizzie started home with the feathers in a paper-bag hugged close in her chubby arms. It was quite a large bag, but feathers, you know, are not very heavy. The bag was carefully tied tight at the top, and so you may imagine that Lizzie was surprised as she trudged along to see a tiny feather escape and go sailing right away before her face. She snuggled the bag the tighter, for of course she was not to see the sky like a rent that was growing larger and larger in the bottom. Then along came that wicked wind, scattering the feathers in every direction and blowing Lizzie's cape over her head, muffling her face in a most bewildering and vexatious manner, so that she almost forgot about the feathers in the trouble of trying to find herself again. When, finally, in spite of the efforts of the perverse wind, she had succeeded in unmuffling her face, she found herself in a shower of feathers, with Snip barking frantically around, and only few downy little things in the corner of the torn bag. And there was the naughty wind, fairly puffing out his cheeks with laughter as he chased the grocer's boy going up the street with his arms full of paper packages. Now Mary was anxious to finish the cushion that day, and she looked at Lizzie with a disappointed face when she came in, grasping tightly the torn remnant of the bag with its forlorn handful of feathers.

"And where are the fithers, me child?" asked Nora; "what have ye done with them?"

"Why, I tried to bring them," said Lizzie, "but the poor things didn't want to come, and they all flew back to grandma's."

#### Fourth Month Dance.

The curious custom of joking on the first of April, sending the ignorant or the unwary on fruitless errands, for the sake of making them feel foolish and having a laugh at them, prevails very widely in the world. And whether you call the victim a "Fourth month dance," an "April fool," an "April

fish" (as in France, or an "April gowk" (as in Scotland), the object, to deceive him and laugh at him, is everywhere the same.

The custom has been traced back for ages; all through Europe, as far back as the records go. The "Feast of Fools" is mentioned as celebrated by the ancient Romans. In Asia the Hindoos have a festival, ending on the 31st of March, called the "Huli festival," in which they play the same sort of first of April pranks—translated into Hindoo—laughing at the victim, and making him a "Huli fool." It goes back even to Persia, where it is supposed to have a beginning, in very ancient times, in the celebration of spring, when their New Year begins.

How it came to be that we everywhere find it the wise men cannot agree. The many authorities are so divided that I see no way but for us to accept the custom as we find it, wherever we may happen to be, and be careful not to abuse it.

Some jokes are peculiar to particular places. In England, where it is called All Fools' day, one favorite joke is to send the greenhorn to a bookseller to buy the "Life and Adventures of Eve's Grandmother," or to a cobbler to buy a few cents' worth of "strap-oil"—strap oil being, in the language of the shoe-making brotherhood, a personal application of the leather. The victim usually gets a good whipping with a strap.

There was an old superstition in England that prayers to the Virgin at 8 o'clock on All Fools' day would be of wonderful efficacy, and it is seriously mentioned by grave writers of old days.

In Scotland the first of April fun is called "hunting the gowk," and consists most often of sending a person to another on a long way off, with a note which says, "Hunt the gowk another mile." The recipient of the note gives him a new missive to still another, containing the same words; and so the sport goes on, till the victim remembers the day of the month, and sits down to rest and think about it.

In France, where the custom is very ancient, the jokes are much the same; but the victim is called an "April fish," because he is easily caught. In one part of France there is a custom of eating a certain kind of peas which grow there, called *pois chiches*. The joke there is to send the peasants to a certain convent to ask for those peas, telling them that the fathers are obliged to give some to every one who comes on that day. The joke is as much on the monks as on the peasants, for there is often a perfect rush of applicants all day.

A more disagreeable custom prevails in Lisbon on the 1st of April, when the great object is to pour water on passers-by, or, failing in that, to throw powder in their faces. If both can be done, the joker is happy.

I need not tell you the American styles of joking; nailing a piece of silver to the side-walk; tying a string to a purse, and jerking it away from greedy fingers; leaving tempting-looking packages, filled with sand, on door-steps; frying doughnuts with an intermingling of wood; putting salt in the sugar-bowl, etc. You know too many already.

But this custom, with others, common in coarser and rougher times, is fast dying out. Even now it is left almost entirely to playful children and the uneducated classes. This sentiment, quoted from an English almanac of a hundred years ago, will, I'm sure, meet the approval of "grown-ups" of the nineteenth century:

But 'tis a thing to be disputed,  
Which is the greatest fool reputed,  
The one that innocently went,  
Or he that him designedly sent.  
—*St. Nicholas for April.*

#### Small-Talk.

The little boy's comment on the spouting white: "Oh, my, doesn't the sneeze a good long way?"

As Frank stood watching the dust whirling in eddies, he exclaimed, "Ma, I think the dust looks as if there was going to be another little boy made."

Bright-eyes, on being told that her heart was like a garden, where flowers grew when she was good and weeds when she was naughty, rendered it afterward: "When I am naughty I have a weed in my stomach."

"Comparisons are odious!" The Major (rocking Nelly on his knee, for Aunt Mary's sake)—Nelly—"Yes, it's very nice. But I rode on a real donkey, yesterday—I mean one with four legs, you know."

A little Rochester girl who had been taught to say in her evening prayer: "Please watch over my papa," lately improved upon that by adding, "You'd better keep an eye on mamma, too!"

"No," said the smart boy-baby, when the pretty young woman wanted to kiss him. "But why not?" asked she. "O, I am too little to kiss you; papa will kiss you; papa kisses all the big girls." He was permitted to play with his toys.

Little Miss—"Papa, I can eat a piece more currant tart, please." Papa—"No, my child; I have already said that you have had sufficient." Little Miss—"Well, papa, then why do we so often sing that favorite hymn of yours, where it says, 'Feed me till I want no more?'" She had the tart.

Mamma—"What is the baby crying for, Maggie?" Maggie—"I don't know." Mamma—"And what are you looking so indignant about?" Maggie—"That nasty dog's been and took and eaten my pumpe cake." Mamma—"Why I saw you eating a sponge cake a minute ago." Maggie—"Oh, that was baby's!"

A MOTHER'S JEWELS.  
I have string on the thread of life, dear child,  
For precious goods, thy years;  
There are only eight, so I've placed between,  
For pangs, a mother's tears;  
Not tears of sorrow, but tears of joy,  
To think that I have given  
Some jewels to make up the crown  
That an angel wears in heaven.  
—*P. G. Taylor, in Boston Transcript.*

#### Small People.

Any family, no matter what its social standing may be, is liable to have a dwarf in its circle. The celebrated Gen. Tom Thumb, who was considered, in days gone by, such a pigmy, would now be looked upon as a giant if placed in contact with the numerous little people that exist. The strangest of all freaks of nature is shown in the Rieck family from Germany, now at New York. Taking the whole family of four, their united weight does not equal one-half the weight of an ordinary man. The likeness of one to the other is remarkably strong, and they plainly show their age, being fully matured and developed.

### HYGIENIC NOTES.

#### VENTILATION.

A physician recommends as essential to health the opening of the windows of every room in a house for a short time daily, that the atmosphere may be purified and changed. The want of proper ventilation is one of the prominent causes of typhoid fever, in connection with unclean conduits to the sewer drains in bedrooms.

**TAPE-WORM REMEDY.**  
I know by actual experience that one-half ounce of powdered korsch root, steeped in one pint of hot water, and taken in equal parts—water, root and all stirred up—two hours apart, on an empty stomach that has received no food or drink for twelve hours, and followed in one hour by a very large dose of salts, will expel tape-worm.—*Cor. Chicago Tribune.*

**WHEN AND HOW TO EAT FRUIT.**  
When fruit does harm it is because it is eaten at improper times, in improper quantities, or before it is ripened and fit for the stomach. A distinguished physician has said that if his patients would make a practice of eating a couple of good oranges before breakfast, from February to June, his practice would be gone. The principal evil is that we do not eat enough of fruit; that we injure its finer qualities with sugar; that we drown them in cream. We need the medical action of the pure fruit acids in our system, and their cooling, corrective influence.—*Medical Journal.*

#### SNEEZING.

As a rule, a sneeze is the warning nature gives that some part of the body is exposed to a cooler temperature than the other parts, and that the sneezer is "catching cold." Next to the warning, what is the use of the sneeze? It throws open the pores of the whole body, and induces a gentle perspiration; in a word, it throws off the cold. A child rarely sneezes more than twice. Perspiration is readily induced in a youth; an old man, on the contrary, sneezes half a dozen to a dozen times, with a loudly explosive "coughing." It is harder to set him to perspiring. When one is sitting by an open window, and finds himself sneezing nature tells him he is taking cold. He should get up instantly, walk about, and take a full tumbler of cold water to keep up the gentle perspiration that the sneeze set in motion. If he does this, he will not be telling, an hour after, that he has a "cold in his head," or chest, or lungs.—*Dr. E. Wentworth*

**REMEDIES FOR SCARLET FEVER.**  
Dr. Henry Pigeon writes to the *London Lancet* as follows: "The marvelous success which has attended my treatment of scarlet fever by sulphur induces me to let my medical brethren know of my plan, so that they may be able to apply the same remedy without delay. All the cases in which I used it were very well marked, and the epidemic on the arms in each case came away like the skin of a snake. The following was the exact treatment followed in each case: Thoroughly anoint the patient twice daily with sulphur ointment; give five to ten grains of sulphur in a little jam three times a day. Sufficient sulphur was burned, twice daily (on coals on a shovel), to fill the room with the fumes, and, of course, was thoroughly inhaled by the patient. Under this mode of treatment each case over eight days in making a complete recovery, and I firmly believe in each it was prevented from spreading by the treatment adopted. One case was in a large school. Having had a large experience in scarlet fever last year and this, I feel some confidence in my own judgment, and I am of opinion that the very mildest cases I ever saw do not do half so well as bad cases do by the sulphur treatment, and, as far as I can judge, sulphur is as near a specific for scarlet fever as possible." Mr. Witt, member of the Royal College of Surgeons, has published a pamphlet, in which he states that bicarbonate of ammonia is a specific for the cure of scarlet fever and measles. He cites Dr. Peart, of Liverpool, and other practitioners, who have never lost a case out of hundreds since adopting this remedy. Two drachms of the bicarbonate of ammonia are dissolved in five ounces of water, and two table-spoonfuls of the solution given every two, three or four hours, according to the urgency of the symptoms. No acid drink must be taken, but only water, or toast and water. The system is to be moved by a dose of calomel if necessary. The room must be well ventilated, but the patient kept from the slightest cold or draught. Gargles should also be employed in clearing the throat. The ammonia seems to counteract the poison which causes scarletina, and also acts on the system by diminishing the frequency and at the same time increasing the strength of the pulse.

**What It Costs to Feed Insects.**

There are about 1,000 species of insects in this country which are injurious to our grain, forage, and field crops, our garden vegetables, fruit crops, and forest and fruit trees. Among them a few are specially destructive. In 1875, it is said, as many as 10,000 settlers were driven out of Kansas by grasshoppers. In Missouri, according to State Entomologist Riley, the damage done by these insects in 1874 exceeded \$15,000,000, and he estimates the losses in the other parts of the West at twice as much more, in all, \$45,000,000 for one year's support of these pests. During the same year, the destruction of growing crops by the chinch bug amounted to \$19,000,000 in Missouri alone. Just ten years before, in Illinois, the same insect occasioned a loss of over \$73,000,000 in a single season. The average annual damage to the cotton crop of the country by the cotton army worm, is estimated at \$50,000,000. The devastating potato beetle is capable of deducting other millions from the annual profits of our agriculture, and the thousand other insect plagues are easily competent to swell the aggregate annual bill of their kind to something like \$200,000,000, according to the estimates of Prof. Packard, whose conclusions of a subject like this are well worthy of respect.

If this enormous sum, or even half of it, could be saved, it would soon amount to enough to pay the national debt. The question whether it can be saved, or any portion of it, is certainly worth considering. Prof. Packard is confident that, with care and forethought, based on the observation of facts by scientific men,

from \$50,000,000 to \$100,000,000 of this annual loss could easily be prevented by a little co-operation between the several States and the general Government. He would have the former emulate the practical good sense of Missouri, and each appoint a salaried entomologist. Then these gentlemen, acting in connection with a United States Commissioner of Entomologists, might issue weekly bulletins, perhaps in combination with the Weather Signal Bureau, reporting the condition of the insect world, forewarning farmers and gardeners from week to week of the insect enemies to be guarded against, and suggesting the preventive and remedial means that should be adopted. The cost would be comparatively slight; the possible good immense.—*Scientific American.*

### THE WORLD OF FASHION.

**Ladies' Hats.**—Hats come in the Devonshire shape, and are very picturesque and becoming to large faces. They are smaller than those of last season, and on one side the brim and the back rolls up. English walking hats with Derby crowns appear, and there is a new shape something like a riding hat, with a stiff square, high crown, with the rim rolled backward. This shape is uncommonly dignified, and admits of no liberties in the shape of garlands, wreaths and laces.

**Bunting.**—Bunting is to take a prominent part in the summer materials, sharing with a new style of goods called seaside barge the usual popularity of such goods as can be advantageously made into costumes for wear during the summer both at the seashore and in the mountains. Seaside barge resembles the old make of barge, being perhaps a little heavier, with more durability and body combined. It is cheap, and comes in very pretty tones of light color, to be trimmed with jacquard braids and embroidered bands.

**Improved Bustles.**—A substantial improvement in bustles and paniers is that of having the ends of the horizontal hoops interlocked with the lengthwise wires in a secure way that prevents them from being displaced and protruding at the ends, as they are apt to do. Another good invention puts hinges in the lengthwise wires, so that they will fold without breaking when the wearer sits down. These are made up in cloth and in skeleton paniers, small bustles, long ones, and the small hoop-skirts that many ladies like to use during the summer months.

**Straw.**—Old-fashioned leghorn is revived in bonnets, with an admixture of yellow-lace straw, open-worked yellow braids, and an open straw with chenille dots. Tuscan straws have a beautiful satiny luster of the same bright-yellow hue, and there are chips, no longer cream-colored, but of a deeper shade, and black chips are mixed with lace straw in open lattice-work or lustrous satin twists. All of the edges of straw bonnets are finished with a pretty fancy straw gimp, or are made with an edge precluding the necessity of piping or binding. This dainty bit of ornamentation is becoming to all styles of faces. The crowns are made of straw or silk, according to fancy.

**And So Forth.**—Mandarin is the leading shade of yellow. Smoked pearl buttons are very fashionable. All the new shades of green have a yellow tinge. Silk chemises and drawers are no longer fashionable. Netted fly-fringes in Moorish designs are most sought for. The Breton vest crops out in many of the spring costumes. Gray kid gloves have the run of fashionable favor this season. Round capes will take the place of dolmans as the season advances. Feathers for head-dresses are studded with steel and crystal. The latest foreign fashion plates represent cone-shaped hats. Large golden butterflies for the hair are in vogue once more. Hair-line and pin-head checked silks make stylish spring suits. Seaside barge is the novelty for country toilets for the coming season. Brides' dresses at the moment are trimmed with fringes of the lilacs of the valley, headed with orange blossoms. Clasps and buttons are so made in parts that only on being united is the natural object selected for imitation complete. The new veils are large and square, and worn so as to cover the hat and to tie in front under the chin in scarf style. The combination of black with blue or rose color has returned to favor, and is adopted in many of the newest and most elegant French costumes.

#### The Sagacity of a Gander.

A correspondent informs us that in the village of Drayton, a grain-buyer, several weeks ago, saved a gander from two dogs who were acting rudely toward him, and ever since he has shown the greatest affection for his protector; in fact he never leaves him while in the market, and if he enters a store or other place of business the gander will remain outside the store until his guardian comes out, and will always greet him with kindness, which he shows by making a great noise, flapping his wings, wagging his tail, and following him wherever he goes. He is the observed of all observers, and is certainly a curiosity. He can be seen every day in the village, following his protector from door to door. The perceptive faculties of this gander are remarked by everybody, and particularly by strangers, as he will perceive his protector in the morning when he comes to business, several blocks away, and will immediately fly to him with every demonstration of love.—*Toledo Globe.*

#### A Queer People.

The Mennonites do not appreciate the privileges of American citizenship. At a general conference recently held at Elkhart, Ind. it was resolved that all members of the church who had voted at the late Presidential election should be admonished, and that every minister should try to induce his members to abstain from voting. Previous to 1871, the Mennonites in Southern Russia were exempted from one of the duties of European citizenship—military duty. In that year the privilege was abolished and the immigration movement to the United States set in. They never go to law, and make it a rule never to accept a public office which would render it necessary for them to take an oath. This being the case, it is not strange that American politics offers few attractions to them.

### BIG SALARIES.

The Way the Money Goes.  
(New York Cor., Cincinnati Enquirer.)

Takes a walk with me any day in the centers of the financial, insurance, commercial and manufacturing interests, and I could point out a score or two of men whose salaries are over \$50,000, many more who receive over \$25,000 per year, and hundreds whose income from salary alone runs from \$5,000 to \$20,000. Not by any means does the remuneration depend upon educational advantages. On the contrary, some of the highest-priced officials are self-made men with good common "cart-horse sense." Away up town is the superintendent of a large sugar refinery whose salary is \$50,000 per year. Many years ago he came here a poor German sugar refiner, and worked for days' wages. He was fertile in genius, experimented a great deal, and made valuable discoveries in the refining process. He was rapidly promoted in salary and position, and when he received and was about to accept a salary of \$25,000 from a rival refinery, he was offered \$50,000 to remain. In the brewery interest I recall persons whose salaries run away up into the thousands. Two managers of large breweries in this city and neighborhood are paid \$25,000 each, five are paid \$15,000 each, and seven receive \$10,000 per year. Many of our railroad officials receive princely salaries. Jewett, Receiver of the Erie, gets \$50,000; Tooney, Superintendent of the New York Central and Hudson River railroad, it is said, receives \$20,000; the General Manager of the Pennsylvania railroad is credited with receiving \$75,000; the "head man" of the New York and Boston is paid \$85,000, while few General Managers of leading Eastern roads receive less than \$20,000. The bank Presidents receive enormous sums. At least six receive \$50,000 per year each; nine range from \$25,000 to \$30,000, and a number get from \$10,000 to \$15,000. The same is true of the steamship interests—a large number of the higher officials pocketing all the way from \$10,000 to \$30,000 per year for their services to the corporations they represent. Life and fire insurance furnishes a field for great expectations on the part of those who aspire to become Presidents and secretaries of companies. The companies have always been shy of exposing the sums paid their chief officials. Fortunately our Legislature took the matter into consideration, and forced the leading companies to give the information desired. Eighteen companies responded very reluctantly. Three Presidents received \$30,000 or over per year, three \$15,000 or over, three \$12,000, and the balance run from \$3,000 to \$11,867. Mr. Hyde, of the Equitable Life, has had a "rich place" since 1859, when he began at \$1,000. In the past eighteen years he has received \$485,905.

#### Stock-Raising on the Plains.

A correspondent of the *Chicago Tribune* writes as follows from Ogden, Utah-Territory: "It does not require much capital to begin with. The most that is needed is a partnership between two or more persons who have a good stock of patience and stick-to-it-iveness. Ten years at the business, it is claimed, with proper attention and common sense, will make any one who engages in it rich. There are many men on the plains with their thousand heads of cattle who began with but a few dozen only four or five years ago. The non-productive animals were sold for slaughter and the proceeds invested in others to increase the herd. It costs nothing to keep them. The range is free. The cost of the herdsman's living is almost unimportant. He may build him a rancho for protection in winter if he wishes of sods, at no expense except of time and labor. His herd is his savings bank, and his increase is his interest, which goes on compounding from year to year, until the owner is a wealthy man before he knows it. The story of Ilif, 'the cattle king of the plains,' reads like a romance. He began herding in 1860, with a small capital, but kept his money in the business until he began to be rich, when, instead of retiring on his laurels, he secured a range extending from Julesburg west about 150 miles, and south to the South Platte, where he bought and turned loose a large herd of Texas cattle, in addition to the herd he had carefully trained up. He has now 60,000 head of cattle, from which he sells 5,000 or more every year, bringing him in \$100,000, and over, annually. The increase per year is about 70 per cent. of the whole number.

"On the Laramie plains sheep-raising is more followed than elsewhere. Several parties have flocks of 10,000, which have been but a few years in multiplying to that number. One man, with a pony and two shepherd dogs, are all that are needed to guard a flock. The average increase is said to be about 80 per cent., and many regard the profit greater and surer than in cattle-raising. But stock-raising, although it has already become of the first importance, is yet in its infancy. This vast fertile region is capable of supporting millions where it only has thousands now."

#### A Thief's Trick.

The following very clever and sublime impudent dodge was some time since adopted by a Parisian thief: A lady, entering her apartment, discovered that a man was beneath her bed. With much presence of mind she exclaimed: "Oh, dear, what a bore; I forgot my parcel after all," and presently left the room, locking the door. The thief looked out of the window, and saw there was no escape that way, and so he proceeded to undress himself and get into the bed. Before long a key turned in the door, and a voice came from the bed, as the lady, accompanied by an officer of police, entered, asking: "Why, what's all this about?" Then, as they approached the bed, he exclaimed: "Ah, ha! I see, how it is. Madam is tired of me, is she, and thinks she'll be rid of me in this way? Well, well, I'll go." In vain the lady indignantly protested, and demanded his arrest. The officer thought that it would be useless, under the circumstances, to detain him, and he was soon out of bed and away.

The wife of John Heffner, of Reading, Pa., has just presented her husband with their forty-fifth child. There is probably no another family in the Union having so many children.

### PEOPLE AND THINGS.

A GEORGIA editress has fallen heir to \$100,000.

The plaintiff in a San Francisco divorce suit is a man 86 years old, and the wife is 70.

FRANKLIN county, Miss., has been without a jail for the last six months, and moreover has no need of one.

The village of Port Jackson, N. Y., emulates South Carolina and Louisiana by having two sets of officers.

WOMAN'S suffrage has come within one of a victory in the Rhode Island Legislature. The vote stood 26 to 25.

THE Government survey boats to be used on the Ohio are to be named J. Donald Cameron and Gen. W. T. Sherman.

THE United States sends more pupils to the Royal Conservatory of Music in Leipzig than any other foreign country save England.

An English ticket-of-leave man, who could obtain no work, recently committed a petty theft that he might be returned to penal servitude.

A CINCINNATI quack, known as Dr. Raphael, became conscience-stricken because of the death of several patients, and killed himself.

DARWIN'S admirers in Germany have made a present to him of a magnificent album, containing the photographs of over 200 Darwinists.

GOV. STANFORD states that the Southern Pacific will be built 140 miles beyond the Colorado into Arizona before the next session of Congress.

THERE is a girl 10 years old in Hinds county, Miss., who is six feet, weighs 190 pounds, and has six fingers on each hand, and six toes on each foot.

A TEXAS sheep-raiser says there are about 2,000,000 head of sheep on the borders of the Rio Grande, the finest sheep-raising country in the world.

A MAN living near San Antonio, Tex., cut 72,000 shingles from one cypress tree, which he sold for \$360, enough to pay for the whole tract of land upon which the tree grew.

SECRETARY SCHURZ has detailed one of the lady clerks in his department, a native of this country who was educated in Germany, to take charge of his German correspondence.

ABRAHAM T. BRIDLER, of Reading, Pa., vaccinated himself with impure virus, which produced great swelling of the arm and inflammation of the system, resulting in death.

THE Duchess of Marlborough intends to make it a condition of the St. Patrick's balls in Dublin Castle that women shall wear Irish poplins. This is done to revive trade in that fabric.

In England, in 1873, iron and steel rails were selling at £15 and £22 per ton respectively; now they may be had for 45 5s and 47 5s. Pig iron has fallen to less than half its price in 1873.

WHEN the new Postmaster General is surrounded by the horde of Washington house-agents offering their establishments for lease, it is said he smilingly remarks that he has nine children.

SECRETARY FISH, on a salary of \$8,000 a year, lived in a house the rent of which was \$8,000. His total expenses were about \$50,000 a year, which his large fortune made it easy for him to sustain.

MISS MAXWELL GRAHAM, of Williamsburg, England, has left £20,000 to four charitable societies, wherewith to relieve poor Protestants, who are named Hutchison or Maxwell, and to educate their children.

A CHINAWOMAN was sold by her husband to a fellow-countryman in California for \$250. She was then healthy, but she soon fell sick, and was disabled for work, so the purchaser killed her with a cleaver.

DURING the twenty-two years of his reign the Russian Czar has failed to indorse a single sentence to capital punishment. From 1855 to 1860 222 sentences were submitted to him and set aside.

LIVE lobsters are the latest imported edible from the United States to Great Britain, one steamer having recently carried a tank containing 700. A constant flow of sea water was kept in the tank by means of a small engine.

PEOPLE want whisky pretty badly sometimes. An Allegheny (Pa.) man went on a spree, the other day, with money obtained by selling his dead child's shoes, and also that intended for the purchase of a coffin to bury it in.

The business of fortune-telling is perilous in Nevada. Castello, a gypsy, told a Truckee man that his wife was unfaithful, and the wife, on learning what had been said about her, whipped the gypsy with a rawhide until he fell from exhaustion.

LATEST advices from Africa indicate that Miss Alice Wren was killed by savages, and not strangled by Mlle. Corn, as at first reported. It is now feared that the whole Corn troupe have been murdered, as nothing has been heard from them.

The notion has been started that compressed tea, by a process which reduces it to one-tenth of its ordinary bulk, is economical. The theory is that the compression thoroughly breaks the cells and smaller vesicles of the leaves, so that boiling water acts effectively on it.

NEST-BUILDING.  
Lady bird, lady bird, wake from your dream!  
The winter, all dreary, is over;  
I hear the murmur of myriad streams  
Singing soft through the upspringing clover.  
And you—your memory if sweetest?  
You gave me my answer while stars were aglow,  
By glances the shyest and fleetest.  
Then hasten! the blossoms give promise of bloom,  
And we, in the April hours,  
Must finish our nest where rich perfume  
Will reach us from all the flowers.  
Our little ones, fledged with the cherries are red,  
Can dine at their own sweet pleasure,  
And guarding them close while their banquet is spread,  
We'll sing without stint or measure.

A YOUNG Frenchman, to avoid conscription, pleaded that his right arm was paralyzed. The story was not believed, and various pretenses were resorted to to compel him to acknowledge the efficiency of the member. It was proposed to cut it off, but the young man did not shrink in presence of the surgeon and his instruments. Under pretext of taking him to another hospital for the operation, he was thrown into the river that was crossed. He at first swam with his left arm, but, finding that insufficient, finally struck out with his right, and revealed his trickery.