

LOVE'S WAGE.

The labor of love is through toil and pain,
And thimble stretches of desert bare;
His garments rusty with wind and rain,
And oft unkempt is his ragged hair.

THE LAREDO COUNTERFEIT
ROBERT J. CLIFFORD, of the United States Secret Service, is a lucky man.

His first great coup was the capture and destruction of the famous Laredo counterfeiting plant, which was then flooding Texas with silver dollars of full weight and fine workmanship.

On the front of the house in which he now lived Clifford saw a little tin sign lettered:
EZRA K. PAYTON, ASSAYER.
Spanish and English Taught.

More luck, thought Clifford. If he's a safe man I may use his services, I'll just look him over now.
So he rapped at a door with Payton's name on it and heard a strong, musical voice shout: "Come in!"

The detective explained that he was in the hide business; that he meant to stay in Laredo a month or two, and thought of learning a little Spanish.
Spanish or no Spanish, I'm glad to know you, said Mr. Payton, taking down a decanter and glasses.



MY WASHERWOMAN.

tective soon learned that his new friend was quite a personage in town, much liked, a public spirited citizen, reputed wealthy and a bachelor.
One night as they were chatting and smoking in the moonlight by Pay-

ton's window the assayer startled his companion with:
"Clifford, I might as well tell you that I know you're a Secret Service man. I—"
"How the mischief—", gasped the astonished detective.

"Simplest thing in the world," laughed Payton. "I got a letter from Daly—your predecessor here. Why, he had the same room you've got, and we were good friends. I've assayed a lot of those bad coins for him.

The rap was repeated, and the assayer said:
"Come, senorita!"
The door swung softly open and a young Mexican girl stepped in. She was beautiful with the shadowy beauty of the weird and luminous nights of her own land.



STARED INTO THE MUZZLE OF A SIX-SHOOTER.

and came back with a pillow case full of linen for the laundress. Teresa took it with a demure courtesy and vanished like a shade.
"Who is it?" he growled, crawling out to make a light.
"Clifford," said his friend. "I've got to leave on the one o'clock train. I thought I'd say goodby!"

Payton opened the door and stared into the muzzle of a six-shooter. In his left hand the detective held the pillow case.
"Well, Payton, you see I held up your laundress," grinned the sleuth, dropping the bag, which clinked its silver contents on the stone floor.

"Why, I've been shadowing that laundress' house for a month. Her father is a roulette fiend, and he always plays the 'queer' dollars. That bag of your linen to-night set me to thinking. I looked too heavy for its size. I slipped out the back way and waylaid her. Now, show us your kit."

Spaniards' Favorite Instrument.
The favorite instrument in Spain is the mandera, of the guitar family. It is usually provided with six pairs of wire strings.

COLONIES IN NEW JERSEY

JEWISH REFUGEES ARE REDEEMING THE WILD LANDS.

The State is at Present About Half Wilderness—How Different Settlements Have Fared—The Success of Woodbine, Rosenhayn and Carmel.

State Geologist Kummell, who has been consulting with Governor Voorhees for some time on the matter of redeeming New Jersey forest lands, will send out in a short time bulletins on forestry, so that the people will be brought to see the possibilities of the State's woodlands and make more than a half-million acres cleared and prosperous land.

Alliance, in Salem County, was at one time in the eyes of benevolent people of both America and Europe, and its establishment was hailed as a solution of an international problem.

In spite of these charitable plans there soon came signs of discontent. Across the country ten miles or so there was an older colony known as Estelle, in Atlantic County. Its inhabitants possessed some means.

The families that remained were patient and industrious. They raised fruit, some of them realizing from \$300 to \$500 a year. In winter they made garments for New York concerns. Some of them started the making of cigars and cigarettes.

Rosenhayn, another of the Hebrew settlements, was started about the same time as Alliance. It was directly on the line of the New Jersey Southern Railroad, midway between Bridgeton and Vineland.

Carmel, like Alliance, missed the line of the railroad. It had no association or corporation backing. It was started in 1882 by the association of 100 families, which, having a little capital, wanted to get out of New York's crowded tenements. They selected a site between Deerfield and Millville.

Woodbine, the best-known of all the colonies, was founded ten years ago, and is directly on the West Jersey and Seashore Road, in the northern part of Cape May County. It contains 200 Jewish and forty Gentile families.

A REMARKABLE TRIBUTE.
George F. Rowell's Printer's Ink Discusses Country Weeklies.

The weekly home paper, the only news sheet probably published in the town or village far removed from a large city, is the most closely read and thoroughly respected publication to be found anywhere. It carries greater weight, has larger influence with the conservative old fogies who have been wrought up to await its weekly coming ever since they can remember.

How a Doctor Charges.
The enormous fees charged and received (in many cases) by physicians of no extraordinary skill have excited the entire medical profession.

Eggs Saved in a Queer Way.
Mrs. Isabel Savory tells in her book, "A Sportsman in India," a story of a hen that was setting, but unluckily for her hatching operations, was interrupted by a cobra, which entered through a chink in the henhouse.

These visiting secretaries are all called upon at times to be masters of social requirements. There are many people from the West and other sections of the Union who have settled in New York, and who are ignorant of the very latest thing for dinners or entertainments, and some of them are shy in employing women or going to one of the bureaus of social requirements.

Australia and England have about the same length of telegraph wires,

FROST ON SHOP WINDOWS

Double Windows the Most Effective Scheme For Prevention.

The cold weather serves as a warning of winter, one of whose annoyances is the formation of an obscuring crust of frost on shop windows. A writer in The Iron Age, probably engaged in the hardware business, says that he had a great deal of trouble of that sort at one time, but finally discovered how to avert it.

When a window has no back partition the best thing to do to prevent having a frosty window is to get another plate glass fixed close to the first, say, with about an inch space between. If this is done properly the window will never freeze even in the coldest of weather.

Human Candlesticks.
Long ago, when our ancestors used candles for lighting, and before the candlestick had been invented, the candle-holder was a boy. At least this was the custom in Scotland where we read that it was the duty of the "herd-laddie" (who watched the cattle by day, to keep them from straying) to sit in the chimney corner at night holding a piece of candle in his hands and occasionally trimming it, to make it burn more brightly.

The only relief the living candlestick had from his work was when a beggar craved a night's lodging. Then in return for his bed and board, the beggar was expected to "hold the candle" for the evening.

Greatness in Perceiving Greatness.
It is easy to see defects. It is not so easy to see beauties. It took less of a man to discern the mistakes in grammar in the ordinary speech of such a man as Dwight L. Moody, when he began his evangelistic work in Chicago, than it did to see his real power as a speaker, that held attention to him such hearers as Lord Cairns, and Mr. Gladstone, and George Bancroft, and the Emperor of Brazil.

Men as well as women seem to require visiting secretaries. The business of visiting secretary and stenographer has been adopted by quite a number of young men, and now or then has set up an office and had a regular clientele.
His hours are principally in the evening, and the people who patronize him are business men who do not feel that they are yet able to afford a regular secretary. They arrange their correspondence so as to dictate in the evening.