PUMPKIN PIE.

I love to see ripe pumpkins lying on
the ground,
'Twixt shocks of corn and melon vines
meandering around;
There's something so delectably suggestive in the sight—
It takes me back to boyhood days; my
heart swells with delight.

Then memory goes rushing back to
happy childhood hours,
And gets mixed up with gingerbread
and pie and cake and flowers;
There's nothing starts the moisture in
the mouth, or in the eye,
Like visions of the luscious—the delicious—pumpkin pie.

There's dumplings, doughnuts pudding
popcorn and buckwheat cakes—
With 'lasses on, and peach preserves
and cookies grandma makes;
There's raisin cake, with frosting on
in tints to catch the eye;
But 'mongst them all there's nothing
quite comes up to pumpkin pie.

"MISS JUDSON."

Just before the big steamer, bound from London to Bombay, was ready to begin her voyage, three detectives and an inspector came aboard and created no little excitement among the passengers in their search for a slick criminal named George Lacy. Lacy was a forger, counterfeiter, and all-around swindler and was wanted on a dozen different charges. The steamer was held for an hour while they examined a large number of passengers. There was a good deal of talk, of course, and 19 out of 20 of the passengers, first and second class, were secretly glad that the criminal had not been overhauled. So long as he had swindled none of us we could forgive him for swindling others.

As soon as we set eyes on Miss Judson, who was seasick and kept to her stateroom for the first three or four days, we instinctively felt that she would be the belle of the ship. She was fairly good looking, of excellent figure, knew how to dress and was witty and magnetic. Before breakfast was over all the single men and half the married ones were determined to get an introduction as soon as possible. None of the women liked her. They began to snub her almost at once, and that evidently pleased her, as it gave her an excuse for avoiding their society. When Miss Judson got fairly started on her course she lost no time. She picked and culled until what was known as the "Judson crowd" numbered about 15 men.

Twelve of these were young men or widowers, while the remainder were married men whose better halves were in England or India. While the crowd was not composed of the highest mental talent on the ship, it was the money crowd, though no one figured on this until later. Miss Judson was the only child of a widower out in India who belonged to the civil service, and she was going out to visit him.

When the ship had been out about a week Miss Judson inaugurated cards to while away the spare hours. She gave out at the start that she never played unless there were cash stakes to make the game interesting. As there were people aboard who might be shocked at the sight of money on the board, slips of paper were used as a substitute and few outside of the players knew what was up. It was a matter of surprise to every one who knew Miss Judson that she was so adept with the pasteboards and was attended by such good fortune. There was considerable jealousy among her coterie and she took advantage of every occasion to fan the flame. This prevented anything like confidence between the men and no one mourned his losses to another. She handled the cards like the slickest gambler and her run of luck was phenomenal. On two or three occasions she manipulated the cards in such a manner that had she been a man I should have called her down, but as it was I had to give her the benefit of the doubt and keep silence.

When Miss Judson had won $350 from me I cashed the slips and went out of the game. She had no further use for me. When I tried to bask in her smiles as usual, the smiles were not at home to me. She had confided to me that she found me congenial, but there seemed to be some mistake about that after I had decided not to lose any more money.

The next victim was the son of an English manufacturer, who was going out to India to invent new ways of spending his father's surplus cash. It was said that he had £5,000 in the purser's safe. That was when he began playing cards with Miss Judson. How much he had left after he got through no one could say, but that she had got at least half of it was common talk, and he himself went so far as to declare that he had been sharped. In the course of three weeks the "Judson crowd" was dissolved. One after another was cleaned out of his spare cash and withdrew, and Miss Judson was certainly several thousand dollars to the good. Nobody was willing to admit his exact loss. Indeed, nearly every man lied about and denied any loss at all, but at the same time each loser knew that the other loser lied. There was no card playing for fun, and soon after it had ceased we were treated to several sensations in succession. The first was the disappearance of several diamond rings and a bracelet which had been left on the piano by a player. They had disappeared in broad daylight, with people sitting or moving about, and as the value was considerable, the sensation was equal. The captain hushed matters up by suggesting that one of the servants was the thief and that the plunder would soon be discovered. Three days later a married woman had a sensational complaint to make. During her temporary absence from her stateroom someone had entered it and stolen £100 in cash a gold watch and a costly breastpin. Her stateroom was only two doors below mine, and in leaving my room at 3 o'clock in the afternoon I caught a glimpse of some one entering hers. I just got sight of a skirt, but I was sure in my own mind that it was one I had seen Miss Judson wear.

It was natural to at first suspect the servants, and the captain had them before him in succession and tried his best to fix the guilt. While this was going on the mate and stewardess were searching quarters and baggage, but no admission was made by any of the questioned, nor could any trace of the plunder be found. I felt sure I could give a good guess as to who it was, but guessing and declaring are two different things. Miss Judson was loud in her indignation and feverish in her anxiety to have the mystery solved, and the average detective would have reasoned that she rather overdid it.

Four days later another stateroom was entered and more jewelry taken, and right in the midst of the sensation a lady missed a pair of diamond earrings which she had put out to clean. There was an indignation meeting in the cabin and several persons made speeches and introduced resolutions, and the captain found his position a most embarrassing one. It was finally decided to hold all the passengers and servants together on deck while a search was made of every stateroom. This search was most thorough and exhaustive, but not one of the missing valuables was discovered. It was, however, the last theft committed, perhaps because every lady turned over her last ring to the purser for safe keeping. The remainder of the voyage was anything but comfortable, as every one felt that he might be under suspicion, and there were very few farewells exchanged at the parting.

I went up the country into Allahabad and had been there six months when an Englishman was arrested for trying to defraud a bank of a large amount of money. It was my province, as a newspaper man, to write up the affair, and later on to come in contact with the accused. The instant I saw him I asked if his name was Judson and if his sister hadn't come out to India on the Malabar. He laughed heartily at the question, but did not answer it until he found that there was evidence enough to send him to prison for a long term. Then he explained that he was Miss Judson herself. Not only that but he was Lacy. He had often escaped the police in the disguise of a female, being small of stature and beardless, and had started for India under their noses. As to the robberies aboard, I laid them at his door and he smiled in reply. He was the thief, without doubt. No wonder he had plucked us of our cash at cards, for he was a notorious sharp. That he did not rope in others and also steal more was more the fault of circumstances than his own. He went to prison for 15 years and died there after half his sentence had expired. A year before his death he escaped, donned female attire again and when captured was found serving in an aristocratic family as lady's maid.

Zootherapy.

Aren't you glad you are not a pet animal of any sort these experimental times? For if you were, perhaps, a little dog your rheumatic master might make you sleep close by his side and some day you would die of the poison absorbed from the sick man's body or your fragile little frame would ache and shiver because a good, kind lady had transferred her headaches by pressing you against her head; or if you were a companionable cat, a fever patient might keep you in his bed, and in a few days rise free of his malady, while you would be turned out of doors to spread the germs, or more probably be killed through them! But this is the new system of curing ills; it is known as zootherapy, and is said to have been discovered by a Florentine. Poor cats and dogs, don't you wish you'd never been born?—Boston Herald.

Evening Drink of a Hygienist.

Referring to the late Sir Isaac Holden's scientific living, a London correspondent writes: "A drink of which he was very fond has escaped observation in the published accounts of his habits. He was accustomed in the evening to empty a breakfast cup of hot coffee, without either milk or sugar into a large glass, which he then filled with soda water and sipped with evident enjoyment while smoking a cigar."

Dangers to Life in India.

India is the only country that makes deaths by the attacks of serpents and wild beasts a feature of its annual statistics. That it has good reason for doing so is shown by the impressive figures of last year's mortality—1,133 deaths from snake bites and 291 people killed by tigers and other wild animals. Although India is one of the most densely populated countries on the globe, the increase of human inhabitants does not have the effect of decreasing the number of wild beasts, as it does elsewhere, because the religion of the natives—or a great proportion of them—forbids them to take the life, even of dangerous beasts and serpents; hence they let these destroyers thrive and multiply in the midst of their communities. One of the best works of the British in India is their reduction of the number of wild beasts, and especially tigers, as a result of their passion for hunting big game.—Philadelphia Ledger.

LIST OF LETTERS

Remaining in the Postoffice at Sistersville, W. Va., Jan. 6, 1898.

Watson Argue, Bert Boach, John Bowers, Michael Brown. Mrs Amanda Clark, Hervert Cochran, Caroline Conley, Daisy Cooper, John Cornish, H M Cauley, G M Custer, Mrs Maggie Dwyer, J E Duffy. Henry Donalson, P V Dodge, Robert Eliranan, George Hays, James Hickman, Joseph Henderson. James E Kellar, Mrs Catherine Kennedy, O Linley, H H Liken, E F McPherson, 2, Elfie Miles, W F Moser, R J Mosler. Fred Nenno 2, M J Phelan, Samue Reed, Rachel Simons, Steve J Shultz, Jonah Sams, Lizzie Smith, Addie Smith, R J Swartzlander, Wm Suter, Mrs Gertie Stewart, Pheme Thompson, G E Wright, Blanche Waldson, L D Wingard.

GEO. E. WORK, P. M.

OIL NOTES.

The runs of Pennsylvania oil for the month of December averaged 88,637 barrels a day. Shipments for the same time averaged 82,246 barrels a day. Runs, therefore, exceeded shipments by 6,291 barrels per day for the 31 days and the stocks of oil were increased about 195,000 barrels during the month.

The runs of Lima oil made by the Buckeye and the Indiana Pipe Line companies averaged 50,976 barrels per day in December. Shipments averaged 61,326 barrels a day, exceeding the runs by 10,350 barrels a day and the stocks of Lima oil were reduced 320,850 barrels during the month of December.

To the west of the southwest extension of the Elk Fork pool the Lun Oil company is drilling at their test well on the Cunningham farm, half a mile in advance of developments, Boyd Bros. are starting a well on the Eakin farm located one and a half miles south of the pool.

The South Penn Oil company's No. 1 Reppard farm, 800 feet south from their No. 1, Meredith, is drilling in the sand and due to strike the pay streak at any time.

The Fisher Oil company's well on Wilson run, Washington county, Ohio, has settled to 200 barrels per day.

STANDARD RE-ELECTS OLD BOARD.

The annual meeting of the stockholders of the Standard Oil company, at 26 Broadway, New York, yesterday resulted in the re-election of the old board of directors, as follows: John D. Rockefeller, William Rockefeller, H. M. Flagler, J. D. Archbold, H. H. Rogers, W, H. Tilford, A. M. McGregor, Paul Babcock and C. M. Pratt.

BIG GASSER AT WASHINGTON.

The People's Light and Heat company of Washington, Pa., have brought in a good gasser on the W. C. Ramsey farm, five miles south of town. The gas comes from the Big Injun sand, and is estimated to have a minute pressure of 100 pounds in an 8-inch casing.

INDIANA OIL FIELD.

The report of the Indiana oil field for the month of December shows: Completed wells, 93; production, 1,698 barrels; dry holes, 23 wells drilling, 44, and rigs up, 48, a total of 92 in new work. During the year just ended there have been completed in Indiana 1,019 producing wells, with a production of 21,868 barrels, and 193 dry holes, a great decrease from that of the preceding year.

A Handsome Present.

The manager of the dining rooms at the depot, W. A. Kelley, presented the pleasant wife of Manager Geo. A. Burt, a handsome pair of antlers which are said to be most beautiful. They were secured from a stag which Mr. Kelley shot some three years ago. Mrs. Burt prizes them very highly.

TEXAS OIL FIELD.

Summary of the Present Developments in the Vicinity of Corsicana.

The Corsicana Daily News furnishes the following report of the number of wells producing and the amount of new work started in the new oil fields in Texas for December 31, 1897.

Land Owner	Operator	Prod
Neblett,	Southern Oil company No. 1	5
Loper,	Southern Oil company, 2	dry
H. & T. C. R. R.,	Southern Oil company. 3	18
Curtis,	Southern Oil company, 4	20
Bunert,	Southern Oil company 5	18
Whiteselle,	Southern Oil company, 6	30
West,	Southern Oil company 7	10
Bunert,	Southern Oil company 8	20
Bunert,	Southern Oil company 9	gas
Kerr estate,	Southern Oil company 10	15
W. & S. 1.	Southern Oil company 11	27
Curtis,	Southern Oil company 12	15
W. & S. 2,	Southern Oil company 13	35
Presley,	Southern Oil company 14	dry
Bunert,	Southern Oil company 15	15
W. & S.	Southern Oil company 16	16
Ferguson,	Southern Oil company 16	17
Clark,	Southern Oil company 18	25
Clark,	Southern Oil company 19	20
Presley,	Sauthern Oil company	30
C O Co,	Corsicana Petloleum company 1	25
Nicol,	Corsicana Petroleum company 2	20
Golden,	Corsicana Petroleum company 4	15
Turner,	Corsicana Petroleum company 5	20
City,	Corsicana Petroleum company 8	dry
Shelton,	Corsicana Petroleum company 11	40
Whiteselle,	Corsicana Petroleum company 12	15
O C Co.	Oil City Oil Co 1	20
McClellan	Oil City Oil Co 2	25
Smith,	Oil City Oil company 3	20
Crane,	Oil Citv Oil company 4	dry
Hays,	Dallas Petroleum company 1	40
Hays,	Dallas Petroleum company 2	50
Hays.	Dallas Petroleum company 3	30
Nicholson,	Dallas Petroleum company 4	50
R Q Mills,	Garritty-Mills company 1	15
R Q Milis,	Garritty-Mills company 2	30
R Q Mills,	Garritty-Mills company 3	25
Levene,	Consumers' Petroleum company 1	30
Scole,	Consumers' Petroleum company 2	40
Walling,	Eritz & Whorton 1	25
West,	West & Hardy	dry
Farron,	W A Lang	25
Verka,	H B Bass	20
Bud,	L C Garrett	40
Walton,	K H Gormely	15

Total wells completed	46
Daily production	990
Dry holes	6

*This well is credited with a half a barrel of oil a day,

NEW OPERATIONS.

Land Owner.	Operator.	Depth.
Nicol,	Corsicana Pet. Co.	shut down
Turner,	Corsicana Pet. Co 6	shut down
Boltz,	Corsicana Pet. Co. 7	drg
City lot,	Corsicana Pet. Co. 9	location
Shelton,	Corsicana Pet Co. 10	location
Crane,	Oil City Oil Co. 5	location
R. Q. Mills,	Garritty & Mills 4	drg
Colquitt,	W. F. Colquitt 1	drg
Freeman,	W. F. Colquitt 2	drg
Scales,	Consumers' Pet. Co. 3	location
Walling,	Eritz & Worton 2	location
Crematory,	Garrity & Mills 1	drg
Chestnut,	W. A. Lang 2	drg
Chestnut,	W. A. Lang 3	drg
Verka,	M. S. Read 1	drg

New locations	6
Shut down	2
Wells drilling	8
Total	16

New Extension to be Operated.

Special to the Review.

Wheeling, Jan. 7.—The city extension of the Wheeling & Elm Grove railway line is expected to be put to operation tomorrow. Today the company has a large force of men at work chopping the ice off the track. Electricity is the motive power of the new road which is now being built as far as Elm Grove, four miles distant.

Campaign to Open Monday.

Special to the Review.

Benwood, W. Va., Jan. 7.—The democrats of this town will open the city campaign next Monday evening. The election occurs in April, and the faithful expect to overthrow the entire republican regime, now in office. August Hebe a staunch democrat, will very likely be nominated for mayor.