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Old-Time Scotch Horrors.

the reign of James I, of Scotland a was born in East Lothie, a village we miles from Edinburgh, Sawney in the son of poor but hard-work people. Evincing from boyhood a sit of all labor, and displaying every of victous quality, he at an early shandoned his home and fied to every. He was accompanied by a fil panion for his crimes in the person young weman, a native of the same ge. The home of this pair was in (of about a mile in length and of distable breach), the mouth of his as weated by the sea, the tide times panetrating the cave a discoulations of 200 yards. The victims were all under cover of night on their flam country fitts, or, in the case much travelers across the country openly atcher in daylighs. The soul stokening mutilation was in din each case; the addomen was pen find the satisfie dragged out we but have been they murdered every let they robled and for years they much their horrible calling. In this in the chromoler tells as, they dutit they had eight sons and its light applied on grandons and for

THE ANSWER OF THE DARDENER. He leant, at sunset, on his spade.

(Oh, but the child was sweet to see—
The one who in the orchard played!)
He called: "Ive planted you a tree."

The boy looked at it for a while, Then at the radiant woods below, And said, with wonder in his smile: "Why don't you put the leaves on, though?"

the gardener, with a reverent air, Lifted his eyes, took off his hat: 'The Other Man, the One up there,' He answered, "He must see to that." Sarrih M. B. Platt, in Belford's Magazine.

IN TWO HALVES.

THE STORY OF A DIVIDED BANK NOTE.

THE FIRST HALF.

Wet and dreary. It is midwinter; the scene is Kirklington, on the London and Northwestern; the time one-quarter to eleven; just after the night mail has flashed through without stopping --bound for Liverpool and the north. The railway officials are collecting prepara-tory to going off duty for the night.
"Where's Dan?" asked one of the

erowd upon the platform. one-quarter to eleven went through. Can't have come to any haim, surely?" "No; he said he'd seen something drop from the train, and he went down

the line to pick it up."

And Dan had picked up something.

It was a basket, a common white wicker basket, with a lid fastened down by a string. What did it contain? Dirty clothes? What?

A baby- a child half a dozen weeks old, no more. Where did you come across it?"

asked one. "Lying on the line, just where it fell.
Perhaps it didn't fall, perhaps it was chucked out. What matter? I've got it, and got to look after it, that's enough

The little mite's linen was white and of fine material, but he lay upon an old shawl and a few bits of dirty flanuel. All they found was a dilapidated purse, a common snaplock bag-purse of faded brown leather. Inside was a brass thim ble, a pawn-ticket, and the half of a Bank of England note of £100.

A new parson-Harrold Treffry-had come lately to Kirklington. He is now paying a round of paroch al visits, accompanied by an old college chum, who is spending Christmas with

who works for any master, most often for the railway, but who is never certain of a job all the year round. He has a twarm of young oblidree, and he has a twarm of young oblidree, and he has a twarm of young oblidree, and he has a labrious preparations that many of the strated, aghast probably at his utter incapacity to do his duty by his motherless little ones. I wonder whether peace all some formet.

John Mallaby which first aroused Jack's suspicions. It was the watch between Bix Jows Mallaby which first aroused Jack's suspicions. It was the watch between Bix Jows Mallaby which first aroused Jack's suspicions. It was the watch between Bix Jows Mallaby which first aroused Jack's suspicions. It was the watch between Bix Jows Mallaby which first aroused Jack's suspicions. It was the watch between Bix Jows Mallaby which first aroused Jack's suspicions. It was the watch between Bix Jows Mallaby which first aroused Jack's suspicions. It was the watch between Bix Jows Mallaby which first aroused Jack's suspicions. It was the watch between Bix Jows Mallaby which first aroused Jack's suspicions. It was the watch between Bix Jows Mallaby which first aroused Jack's suspicions. It was the watch between Bix Jows Mallaby which first aroused Jack's suspicions. It was the watch between Bix Jows Mallaby which first aroused Jack's suspicions. It was the watch between Bix Jows Mallaby which first aroused Jack's suspicions. It was the watch between Bix Jows Mallaby which first aroused Jack's suspicions. It was the watch between Bix Jows Mallaby which first aroused Jack's suspicions. It was the watch between Bix Jows Mallaby which first aroused Jack's suspicions. It was the watch between Bix Jows Mallaby which first aroused Jack's suspicions. It was the watch between Bix Jows Mallaby which first aroused Jack's suspicions. It was the watch between Bix Jows Mallaby which first aroused Jack's suspicions. It was the watch between Bix Jows Mallaby which first aroused Jack's suspicions. It was the watch between Bix Jows Mallaby which f the children—that marvellous hanky. panky of yours, those surprising tricks; a child takes to you naturally at once. Try and make friends with these. Perhaps when the father sees them inter-ested and amused he may warm a little, plum pudding in a hat, fired wedding

bim for a new Houdir, or a wizard of the unmistakebly. Finally, with an ostentation that savored of rudeness, he took fessional by the time he was full grown. In addition to the quick eye and the facile wrist he had the face of hear. He he saw it. Perhaps through it he might

power. together. The children—eight of them
were all skirmishing over the floor, except one, a child of six or seven, a
bright eyed, exceedingly beautiful boy,
the least—were not nature's vagaries belong to such surroundings, who stood between the legs of the man himself, who had his back to the visitors, and was rouching low over the scanty fire.

The man turned his head for a mo- ack Newbiggin.

consumption of four or five from the floor. "No, not you nor you hard: nor you, Jakey"—
and he ran through all their names.
They had now ceased their gambols and were staring hard at their visitors—
the moment was propitions. Jack New biggin began. He had fortunately filled his pockets with nuts, oranges and cakes before leaving the parsonage, so he had had his apparatus ready in hand.

The pristy boy had left the father at he fire and had come over to join in the fus. coing back, however, to exhibit his share of the spoil and describe voin in the fus. coing back, however, to exhibit an interest and had coursed. This and the re-stard should be a stard to produce some impression on him.

It is sery good of you, also studies the interest check if the father and and to make on later and had comed as a studies in an adjoining room.

Ont the first chick if the father and the re-stard shoulder and said bit without animation; the first chick if the father and to make on later and to as now and the second of the said lank, desisting the commonest imposture. These are things which he has coached

of us now and lank, desisting im, the children

hile he was speaking he had taken fible from the shell, and resuming eat began to turn the leaves over. 'm an untaught, rough countryman, out I have heard tell that these ign things you do are only tricks;

#1 Jt was half a Bank of England note

"How, sir, could any conjurer help me to the other half?"
"How did you come by it?" asked

"I'll tell you, sir, short as I can make

it. Conjurer or no conjurer, you've go! a kindly heart, and I'm main sure that you'll help if you can." Dan then described how he had picked up the basket from the 10:45 Liverpool

There was the linen; I've kept it. See here; all marked quite pretty and proper, with lace round the edges, as though its mother loved to make the little

one smart." Jack examined the linen; it bore a monogram and crest. The first he made out to mean H. I. M., and the crest was plainly two hammers crossed, and the motto, "I strike"—not a common crest and he never remembered to have seen it before.

"And was that all ?" "'Cept the bank note. That was in a poor old purse with a pawn-ticket and a thimble. I kept them all."

Like a true detective ack examined every article minutely. The purse bore the name Hester Corrigan, in rude letters inside, and the pawn ticket was made out in the same name.

THE SECOND HALF.

When Jack Newbiggin got back to the parsonage he found that his host had accepted an invitation for them both to dine at the "Big House," as it was called, the country seat of the squire of the parish.

"I have been fighting your battles all day," began Mrs. Stillwell, the hostess, when seated at dinner next to Jack. "Was it necessary? I should have

thought myself too insignificant." "They were talking at lunch of your wonderful tricks in conjuring, and some one said that the skill might prove in-convenient -- when you played cards, for instance."

"A charitable imputation; with whom did it originate? "Sir Lewis Mallaby."

"Please point him out to me."

He was shown a grave, scowling face upon the right of the hostess—a face like a mask, the surface rough and

did not trouble himself to back up the invitation, but when the performance was actually begun was at no pains to conceal his contempt and desgust.

speak, perhaps approve, perhaps smile, rings into quartern loaves, did all manner and in the end give in. Jack, will you of card triks, knife tricks, pistol tricks, try?"

and juggled on conscientiously right

Jack Newbiggin was by profession a through his repertory. There was never
conveyancer, but nature had intended a smile on Sir Lewis's face; he sneered

suave manner and the face of brass. He he saw it. Perhaps through it he migh had even studied mesmerism and clair- make its owner uncomfortable, if only voyance, and could upon occasion surfor a moment. But how to get it into prise his audience considerably by his hands? He asked for a watch—a dozen were offered. No, none of these They entered the miserable dwelling would do. It must be a good watch-a repeater.

Sir Lewis Mallabys was the only one in the room, and heat first distinctly refused to lend it. But so many earnest entreaties were addressed to him, the well known-likely to be born among and hostess leading the attack, that he could not in common courtesy continue to re-

fuse.
With something like a growl he took
his watch off the chain and handed it to

The man turned his head for a moment, gave a perceptible state, then an imperceptible nod, and once more he glowered upon the fire.

Here, little ones; do you see this gentleman? He's a conjuror. Know what a conjuror is, Tommy? catching up a mite of four or five from the floor. "No, not not not you. Sarah, nor you. Jakey"—

A curious, old fashioned watch it was, which would have gladdened the heart of a watch collector—all jeweled and enameled, adorned with crest and inprobably been in the Mallaby family for years. Jack looked it over curiously, meditatively; then, suddenly raising his

hold to. It is the commonest imposture. oward him, the children coting to a far off corner hotes.

Indeed, the children op in advance. Let him be tried with something which upon the face of it he cannot have learned beforehand by a speaking he had taken in the shelf, and resuming to turn the leaves over anght, rough countryman, hibition.

bitition.

But he seemed to be conscious that further protest would be in Jack's favor; so he said: "Can you tell what I have in this pocket?" He touched the left breat of his coal; "A pocketbook."

"Heh? Every one carries a pocketbook in his pocket."

"But do you?" asked several of the bystanders, all of whom were growing deeply interested in this strange duel. Sir Lewis Mallaby confessed that he did, and produced it—an ordinary morocco leather purse and pocketbook,

"Are you prepared to go on?" said the Barones, heughtily, to Jack."
"Certainly,"
"What does this pocketbook contain?"

"Evidence of what?" "Of facts that must, sooner or later,

come to light."

"What ridiculous nonsease! I give you my word this pocketbook contains nothing—absolutely nothing—but a Bank of England note for £100."

"Stay." said Jack Newbiggin, facing him abruptly, and speaking in a voice of thunder. "It is not so—you know it—it is only the haif!"

And as he speak he took the vocket.

And as he spoke he took the pocket-book from the hands of the really stupe-fied Baronet and exhibited for inspec-tion—the half of a Bank of England note

There was much applause at this harmless and successful degouement of what threatened at one stage to lead to alter

threatened at one stage to lead to alter cation, perhaps to a quarrel. But Jack Newhiggin was not eatisfied.

"As you have dared me to do my worst," said he, "listen now to what I have to say. Not only did I know that was only the half of a note, but I know where the other half is to be found." "So much the better for me," said the Baronet, with an effort to appear humor-"That other half was given to-shall I

say, Sir Lewis?"
Sir Lewis nodded indifferently.

"It was given to one Hester Gorrigan, an old nurse, six years ago." "Silence! Say no more," cried Sir

Lewis in horror.

Sir Lewis had been a younger son; the eldest inherited the family title, but died early, leaving his window to give him a posthumous heir, the title remaining in abeyance until time showed whether the infant was a boy or a girl. It proved to be a boy, whereupon Lewis Mallaby, who had the first information of the fact, put into execution a nefarious project which he had carefully concocted in advance. A girl was obtained in a foundling hospital and substituted by Lady Mallaby's nurse, who was in Lewis's pay for the newly-born son and heir. This son and heir was handed over to another accomplice, Hester Corrigan, who was bribed with £100, half down, in the shape of a half-note,

nounced her safe arrival in Texas with "Yonder," said Treffry, pointing to a thin thread of smoke which rose from some gaunt trees into the sullen wintry air, 'yonder is the house—if, indeed, it deserves so grand a name—the hovel, rather, of one whose case is the hardest of all the hard ones in my parish. This

the other half to be paid when she an-

hit the mark, as we have seen.

Lowi. Mallaby's confession, combined with that of Mrs. Corrigan, who was found by the police, soon reinstated the rightful heir, and Dan Blockitt, in after years had no reason to regret the gener-osity which had prompted him to give the little foundling the shelter of his rude home.—Loudon Tid-Bits.

Happy Hottentots.

The Hottentots in the Jardin d'Accilmatation continue to attract the attention of Parislans, but the poor creatures have been shivering in the cold weather which has prevailed lately. They have been brought to Paris by a German, who relates that he got them to start for Europe almost by force. Herr Thege, the energetic person in question, first negotiated with "Mother Elizabeth." the most intelligent member of the troupe, who is herself on view in the Bois de Boulogne. The natives were enticed to the railway carriages, into which they were unceremoniously packed. When they arrived at the wharves at Cape Town they were so dazed that they allowed themselves to be carried like children on board the steamboats. The Hottentots, however, have little to complain of in Paris ex-

cept the bad weather. The men received as pay \$10 per month and the women \$3. On Sunday they are well "largessed" by the crowd of visitors who flock to the garden to visit them, and "Mother Elizabeth," who takes care to put her elf in evidence and to show that she is the most important personage in the troups, makes fifty francs or \$25 at least on such occasions. "Mother Elizabeth," however, has a formidable rival in "acob," the head man of the Hottentot troupe, who is a mighty hunter and has slain a lion. The chief orders the minor Hottentots about, and every evening designates the cook for the following day, the functionary of the kitchen having to rise at six o'clock in order to chop wood, light fires and make soup, which is cemposed of coffee and salt. When they are at home in Africa, Herr Thege's troupe are not particular as to what they eat. They re-main in a state of utter laziness until they are hungry; then they go on the trail and cat anything they can get from a buffalo or cat to a toad. Porcupines form their daintiest dish, and lizards, bats, owls and even worms are not de-spised. "Mother Elizabeth," the venerable Hotlentot dame. has two fingers out off, to show that she has been twice married,—Graphic.

A Man With Owl's Eyes.

John C. Dooley, one of the best known John C. Dooley, one of the best known of the aqueduct inspectors, is, strange to say, almost blind during daylight: at night, however, his eyes ght is so good that he has been appointed a night inspector on the masonry work, and, is is said, can pick out a west spot quicker than any one engaged in the same work. It is said that he has followed underground work so long that the pupils of his eyes are now more like these of the owl than those of men. — New York Sun.

The mother of Sir Wa

BUDGET OF FUN.

HUMOROUS SKETCH'S FROM VARIOUS SOURCES.

Romance of a Phonograph-A Great Similarity - Why He Was So Earnest - Theory and Practice, Etc., Etc.

> He loved a blushing maide.
>
> But his soul was full of the soul was her bear. Her father moved the lever, And before the day was done That phonograph was guarded By a bull-dog and a gun.

A Great Similarity. "Whenever I see Barkins I think the trade winds," said Ismythe.

"Why so?" queried Bjones.
"Oh, he is always blowing about his

Why He Was So Earnest.

Maud—"Are you really engaged to Mr. Hawkins, Ethel?"
"Ethel—"Yes, I hardly know whether I love him or not, but he was so carnest that somehow I could not refuse him.' Maud-"Yes, I know. When I refused him last summer he told me he was going to marry somebody or burst before Christmas." - Terre Haute Express.

Theory and Practice. "What is the half of twenty-five?" asked the teacher. Little Johnnie scratched his head and

didn't answer. "Well, I'll make it plainer." she said. "If your father bought one cigar that sold two for a quarter, how much would the dealer charge him?"
"Fifteen cents," returned little John-

A Wise Suggestion.

"My dear, why do you change cooks o often?" "Because you are always complaining

nie. - New York Sun.

of the food. "Well, I won't kick any more Just hang on to one individual and give my stomach a chance to get acclimated."

A Literary Butcher. Visitor-"What a beautiful library you have! I really envy you."
Retired But her-"Yes; and just look

at the binding of them books.' Visitor-"I see; they are all bound in calf." Retired Butcher-"Just so, and I killed all them calves myself what furnished

the leather." - Texas Siftings. Expensive.

Expensive.

Expensive.

Parrowly—"I'm not feeling very well, doctor. My head achos and I feel all bridges in condition.

Doctor—foll den't take enough exercise. You ride down to business instead of walking, as you should."

Larrawly—"But I can't afford to the lit makes me so hungry, and lunches cost money.—Harper's Ba.ar. Expensive.

Getting Things Mixed. Magistrate (absent-minded, to pris-oper,— Stand up! You hereby solemly declare, in the presence of these wit-Desses that you will love, cherish and

protect this woman until death do you Prisoner (badly frightened)-"Whawhat's that, yer honor? Magistrate (rousing himself)-"Oh, I

Trimming His Sails.

Gus-"Do you carry two watches Jack, or is that double chain a bluff?" Jack-"No bluff, Gus; I carry a Waterbury in one pocket and a Jurgensen in

Gus-"What's that for?" ack-"When a man to whom I owe money asks me the time I consult my Waterbury, but when a stranger or lady wants the same information it's the Jurgensen that gives it, and don't you forget it. - Rpoch.

A Man of Inventive Genius. Carpenter-"You say you want bureau made on a new plan?" Citizen-"Yes, sir. I want it made with legs so that I can get my head and shoulders under it."

Carpenter-"Of course, I will fill your order, but you might satisfy my curiosity as to why you want a bureau made in Citizen-Woll, I want to be able to find my collar button when I want it without moving the bureau." Biston

A "T" Fight. Blobson-"Had a little tea fight at our house last night." Dumpsey-"Indeed!"

Courier.

"Yes; my wife said there ought to be two t's in better, and I said there ought o be only one.'

"Your wife was right."
"Eh! Right? For heaven's sake, don't tell her, or she'll never let up on me. I'm president of the Burlington Business Men's Literary Club."—Bur-Looks Black for the Witnessoy. "Yes, sir," said the witness, "he fell out of the sixth story window. There were six of us in the room at the time;

there was no quarrel; we were all friends, and there had been no drinking. He was sitting in the open window talking, and suddenly lost his balance and fell out."

"What was he talking about?" asked a juryman.

"He was felling some smart things his six year old boy said."

And very pomptly the coroner held all five of them to await the result of the wounded man's injuries.

She Was All Right.

She Was All Right.

"That Mrs. Ostentations is outside, sir," said the clerk, entering the private office. "She wants to open an account with us."

"Umph! returned the tallor, beginning to meditate. "Do you know anything about her, Griggs?"

"No, sir; but she says she is prominent in social circles."

"How often did she return that last dress to be altered?"

"Fifteen times, sir."

Different Now.
She had been reading of the latest kid-

napping outrage. "George, dear," she asked her lover, "how much are you worth?" "About \$5000, love."

"George, suppose these herrid kidnappers should steal e, would you give that \$5000 to get me back?"
"Willingly, darling, willingly. Aye, if it were millions instead of thousands I would give it up without a marmur," he answered, as he folded her in his lov-

ing embrace. They are married now and the 25000 still goes, but with this difference, that

George now wants to give it to the kidnappers .- Sifting .

Her Last Request.

"It's all over, Lil. Carl refused me this morning. Itop on your way down town and get me a two-ounce bottle of laudanum. It's my last request."

"Don't take it so to heart, dear. You'll get over it in time." "I never shall-never! I tell you I won't live another day. And say! stop into Miss Crimmins's on your way back and see if that dove colored opera cloak of mine is finished. She promised to have it done by Thursday, so I could wear it to the opera with Harry Jenkyns. He'd be so disappointed if I couldn't go."-judge.

Within the Gates.

flender Youth - "I am very anxious, s'r, to enter the noble profession of journalism, to become master of the great questions and mighty truths of civ.lization, to mold public opinion in

the right --Able Editor-" Certainly; I understand your feelings perfectly, and I am ever ready to extend a helping hand to aspiring youth. I will give you a trial at once. Did you notice my editorial this morning denouncing the brutal sport of prize fighting and referring to Jake Slugger as a low down, cowardly blot on the face of humanity?"

"Well, we are short of reporters to-day, and I wish you would interview Slugger and see what he thinks about it."-Philad lphia Rened.

Why Didn't She Say So. "Oh, Mr. Bixby; wait a moment, you _____" "Oh, I ain't got time to wait. Its

time for my car now, and --"
"But, I only --" "I shan't have time to go gallivanting around doing errands for you to-day, Mrs. Bixby. 'Hanged if I—"
"But James, I simply wanted—"

"Oh, I know-you simply, want i spool of number 36 thread and a card of pearl buttons, and a basket of grapes, and a yard of elastic, and forty-nine other things; and-"James, I ust wanted ____"

"I tell you its time for my car, and shall be too busy to get anything, to-day, Wait, James; 1---"Well for heaven's sake say it quick,

then, and let me go. I don't see why "I simply wanted to tell you that you collar was inbuttoned and that your necktie had slipped half-way round."
"Well, why the deuce didn't you say so, instead of keeping me here all day

-and there goes my car!"- Time. The Enervating Sirocco.

Most of the hot winds of the Old World are modified forms of the simoon. The sirocco originates in the Sahara and travels northward to the Mediterranean beg pardon! It's ten dollars or thirty and Southern Europe, but it is not sc deadly as its prototype. It brings with it great quantities of the desert sand, and the air becomes so dense at times that the sun is obscured as if by a London fog. While it remains on the African main land it is characterized by a very marked dryness, as there are no extensive water surfaces to supply it with moisture. As soon, however, as it is launched over the Mediterranean it Legins to take up copi-ous draughts, so that when it reaches Malta, Sicily, and the southern shores of Europe as a wind from between south-east and southwest, it has undergone a change from a hot dry wind to a hot damp wind. The result of this alteration is that it becomes most enervating to the human constitution. Indeed while it prevails, from one to several days at a time, life is scarcely worth living, so depressing and burdensome is the wind. It is the plumbeus Auster of Horace. Human energy is quite dissipated under its fatiguing influence, and with a temperature ranging between ninety-five degrees and one hundred and ten degrees the streets of the town affected by it are deserted. According to the Italians a stupid book is put down as "era scritto in tempo del solrocco." To the Sicilians the oppressive wind is a perfect plague, for, although naturally indolent, they cannot stand the further loss of energy induced by it. During its prevalence iron rusts, clothes spoil with mildew, meat turns putrid, grapes and green leaves wither, wine will not fine, and paint will not dry. Sicily experiences the sirocco about a dozen times a year, but it is not so frequently met with in other parts of Europe. There is no mistaking the origin of the wind, as the reddish sand is still present when it arrives on the northern shores of the Mediterranean and causes a m'sty atmosphere. In Turkey the sifocco is known as the Samiel, or Sumyel, a name identical in meaning with simoon. It is supposed to have some connection with cattle disease in the south of Rus-

According to the Spaniards only a pig and an Englishman are insensible to this wretched breeze.—Cornhill Magnains.

and is known locally as the solano, damp wind, so netimes accompanied by

rain, causing feverishness, dizziness, and restlessness, and people are so 'doneup' under its debilitating influence that we must "ask no favor during the splane."

On the Spanish Mediterranean coast the wind draws more to the east,

A Gigantie Iron Horse. A glant knomotive is being constructed in Bostons. It is for use on the Atchison Road, and has two cabs, one over "Umph! returned the tailor, beginning to meditate. "Do you know anything about her, Griggar"
"No, sirt but she says she is prominent in social circles."
"How often did she return that last dress to be altered?"
"Fifteen times, sir."
"That's all right, Griggs. Credit her with all she needs."—Lye.
"Is supported the tailor, begin the boiler for the engineer, and the other in the usual place for the firemen. The driving wheels are of paper, with steel driving wheels are of paper.

RELIGIOUS READING

There is no rest without the tol.

The patient, strong endeavor:
Tis he who wins divides the spoil.

We cannot all the prizes take; We cannot all be thriving; We can our evil self forsake-We always can be striving.

The coward takes it, never

To dare is better than to doubt, For doubt is always grieving.
Tis faith that finds the riddles out.
The price is for believing.

To do is better than to dream;

Life has enough of sleepers; To be is better than to seem-The sowers are the reapers —-{Rev. Henry Burton.

A Common Chattan Thought. Christ ans remembering their sainted kindred dead, and hoping that i ey also are remembered by their, may and do look forward to the time of their own departure from earth, when the present suspension of intercourse between them will come to an end, and will when social relations sundered end, and will when social relations sundered by death will be re-escablished, not in the form and with all the circumstances marking them in this word, but in a sense that will involve mutual r cognition and reunion in a better world, and be a source of heavening the great of the social pleasure. This is a common Christian thought, affording delightful anticipation in this earthly scene, and somewhat initigating the griefs of bereavement; and though to a matter of direct and positive reveation, it is not without a rational probability in its favor. It is a much botter thought than the horrid creed of the skeptical materialist, who sees nothing in death but an absolute extinction of our conscious being. The instincts of our nature welcome the thought, and are quite willing to regard the thought, and are quite willing to regard it as true, even without a positive and ex-plicat revelation affirming its truth. Sad to iffection and sad to hope, would it be if sarth's farewell was final. God be praised that better possibilities and better probabilities are within the reach of our faith and

commend themselves to our neceptance. National Enthusiasm.

One cannot contemplate without deep interest the enthusiasm of a great nation, and it is well worth while to study the progress of a general election canvass in the United of a general election canvass in the United States. One subject absorbs the attention of the entire land. Everywhere there are clubs, meetings, processions badges and banners. The best of speakers are secured at the cost of millions of dollars to each great party, the papers are full of political matters, the questions at issue are hotly debated, in every circle, and money is given with a lavish hand for campaign expenses. No doubt there is much evil mingled with all this: large amounts of money are wasted, and a frightful sum is spent in purchasing votes and influence. The zeal of many is promoted by desire for office more than by love of the country. Yet on the other hand the interest of the mass of voters is truly patriotic; large sacrifices of time and means are made from nobly unselfish motives, and are made from nobly unselfish motives, and the universal and eager discussion of important questions of public policy does much to instruct our people and increase their pa-

triotism.

"It is good to be zealously affected in a good thing," and we find much to approve in American zeal in our national election.

Would to God that we might with a like general enthu-tasm in advancing Christ's kingdom in the earth; a similar lively appreciation of the urgency of the cause, as keen an interact in all that works for or

time and money to secure its triumpus the children of light were as wise in their generation as the children of this world, how swift would be the progress of the cause in which all the hopes of mankind are em-barked!—[Amorican Massenger.

The Shut in Society.

The Shut in Society.

The Shut in society, mention of which has been so often made in paper and periodical, is doing a good work among invalids, for to take one's thoughts from one's own sufferings, and become interested in the welfare of another is one of the surest ways of becoming happy Mrs. J. M. D. Conklin of Convent, N. J., is president of this association, and Mrs. Marv L. Dickenson is the editor of the Open Window, a twenty-page monthly magazine, the organ of the association. Now, while the sympathy of other invalids is very grateful, it seems to me that a good, full letter from a healthy person who goes about the world, and is alive to all of its activities, must be more cheering and welcome to a shut in. How one healthy pergoes about the world, and is alive to all of its activities, must be more cheering and welcome to a shut in. How one neatiny person can cheer and comfort a whole house full of invalids! What a field is open to women of means and lei ure, if they will only look about them. Indeed one has hardly to look, so plentifully do these cases appear, and appeal to our sympathies. Rich women are longing for careers wherein to distinguish themselves, and not only for the sake of distinguishing themselves, but in many cases to make themselves useful to their follow beings. Money is all-powerful, and the rich woman has a wider sphere of assfulness than she could enjoy without the accompaniment of money. Oh, the blessings to a sick room that money can supply. A young girl who delighted in making paper flowers, and who was happy in a beautiful home, imagined how a children's hospital might be brightened by natural looking bunches of these bright things, and accordingly made a number of boxes of them, and sent to the hospital to be put up about the room. And so there are innumerable ways in which the rich may sweeten and brighten the lives of the poor, and especially the suffering, among both of which perhaps a number of the Shut Ins may be reckoned.

The Emperor and the Child.

A story is tolds of a certain Indian monarch, many years ago, who took a great in-torest in his people, but who made very strict laws, and severely punished those of his athlects who broke them. He was fond of going about in all parts of the country dressed in rough clothes like a wo-brane to see whether his people were well or ill treated, and how his laws were observed. Although he was very kind, there were many persons who hated him bitterly and thought him unjust and crued.

who hated him bitterly and thought him unjust and cruel.

On one occasion, as he was walking through the city, there was a terrible uptour—men, women and children running in all directions, and screaming as it wellingh frightened to death. An enormous elephant had broken losse in a fit of rage from one of the great bussars, and was tearing through the streets, destroying all before it.

before it.

A poor, little, half-starved child had slipped, and follen in the elephant's track; and in another moment would have been orushed to death. But a man, dressed as a laborer, sprang out in front of the furious beast, caught up the child and leaped back just in time to escape the cherge of the elephant. As the man jumped back, his turban fell off and every one saw that he who had releved by he life to arrest all the who had risked his life to save a little child was none

risked his life to save a little child was none other than the emperor himself.

But we read in the Soriptures of the King of kings, who became poor that povorty stricken rebels might be maderich (2 Cor. viii, 9). And the Saviour not only risked his life to rescue poor, perishing man, but deliberately offered himself a sacrifice for sins; become a substitute for the sinner, and "bare our sins in his own body on the tree" (1 Pet, fi, 24).

Have you, my friend, received the Taxan Have you, my friend, received the Lord Jesus Christ as your Saviour? "As many as received Him, to them gave He power to become the sons of God, even to them that follows on his name" (John i, 12). "He that believeth on the Son hath everlosting life; and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrest of God shides as

see life; but the wrath of God abideth on Him John III, 36),