And type of all her race. Poor, reckless, rude, low born, untaught, Bewildered and alone; A heart with English instinct fraught He wet can call his own.

Bring cord or ax or flame; He only knows that not through him Shall England come to shame. Far Kentish hop fields round him see Like dreams, to come and go; Bright leagues of cherry blosse

One sheet of living slow;
The smoke above his father's door
In gray soft eddyings hung;
Must be then watch it rise no more, Doomed by himself so young?

Yes, honor calls with strength like steel He put the Vision by: Let dusky Indians whine and kneel An English lad must die. And thus, with eyes that would not shrin With knee to man unbent, To his red crave he went

Vain mightiest fleets of iron framed, Vain those all shattering guns, Unless proud England keep untamed The strong heart of her sons; Se let his name through Europe ring-A man of mean estate, Who died, as firm as Sparta's king, use his soul was great.
—Sir Francis Hastings Doyle,

## A NEW YEAR'S SERMON.

DR. TALMAGE'S DISCOURSE AT THE BROUKLYN TABERNACLE. Consider the Years of Many Generation Was the Text, and the Sermon Was Regarding PThe Chronology of the Bible, or God Among the

BROOKLYN Jan. 1 .- Rev Dr Talmage this morning appropriately took for the subject of his New Year's day sermons"The Chronology of the Bible, or God Among the Centuries." Beuntil 1752 did the first of the month fore the discourse the great audience which fully crowded the Tabernacle of January get the honor in legal documents in England of being called sang the hymn:

Our Got, our help in ages past Our hope for years to come.

generations." did not see either the departure or the years, the months, the days, the hours, kindness and good morals as for prowarrival, but was sound asleep, think- the seconds. ing that was for me the best way to Think of making appointments as

As an army is divided into brigades the watches of the night in Bible and regiments and companies, and times a rooster crowing. The Bible they observe this order in their march and their tread is majestic, so the deny me thrice," "If the Master the time of the world's existence is cometh at the cockcrowing," and that divided into an army divinely com- was the way the midnight watch was manded; the eras are the brigades, indicated. The crowing of that barnthe centuries are the regiments, and yard bird has always been most unthe years are the companies. For- certain. The crowing is at the lowest ward into the eternity past, out of the temperature of the night, and the eternity to come! Forward is the amount of dew and the direction of command, and nothing can halt them, the wind may bring the lowest temeven though the world should die. perature at 11 oclock at night or 2 While obeying my text, "Consider the o'clock in the morning, and at any years of many generations," I pro one of six hours. Just before a rain pose to speak of the "Chronology of the crowing of chanticleer in the night the Bible, or God Among the Centuis almost perpetual.

ARRANGING EVENTS.

We make a distinction between time and eternity, but time is only a when 12 o'clock is 12 o'clock, and piece of eternity, and chronology has 6 o'clock is 6 o'clock, and 10 o'clock, been engaged in the sublime work of dividing up this portion of eternity that we call time into compartments and putting events in their right comartment. It is as much an injustice against the past to wrongly arrange its events as it would be an injustice if, through neglect of chronological accuracy, it should in the far distant arguments for the authenticity of the future be said that America was dis-Scriptures. covered in 1776, and the Declaration of Independence was signed in 1492, and Washington was born on the 22d United States was fought in 1840.

As God puts all the events of time in the right place, let us be careful that we do not put them in the wrong place. The chronology of the Bible we watch the movement. From Adam to Abraham. From Abraham to the dus to the foundation of Solomon's temple. From the foundation of Solomon's temple to the destruction of that temple. From the destruction of the temple to the seturn from Bahylonish captivity. From Babylonish captivity to the birth of Christ.

Chronology takes pen and pencil and calling estronomy and history to help says: "Let us fix one event from which to calculate everything. Let it be a star, dar" And from that we go back and see the world was created 4,004 years ears before Christ; the deluge came 2,348 of Egypt occurred 1,491 years before Christ, and Solomon's temple was de-stroyed 556 years before Christ. Chronology enters the first chapter of Genesis and says the day mentioned

translated as "day" in other places meaning ages and so the Bible account of the creation and the geologists' ac-

and shows us that the seasons of the preached on this stupendous and out for that second!" year were then only two-summer overwhelming theme? We have stood We talk a great deal about the and winter. We find that the Bible by the half day or the whole day at value of time, but will never fully apyear was 360 days instead of 365; that grand reviews and seen armies pass. preciate its value until the last fragment the day was calculated from 6 o'clock Again and again and again on the in the morning to 6 o'clock at night; Champs Elysees Frenchmen by the forever. The greatest fraud a map invented so long after the world be they could huzza no longer. Again minister or the lecturer or business gan their mission that the day was and again and again the Germans by man who comes to his place ten min-not very sharply divided in Bible hundreds of thousands have stood on utes after the appointed time commits

threw on the steps beneath indicated the hour, the shadow lengthening or withdrawing from step to step.

But the events of life and the events of the world move so slowly for the most part in Bible times that they had no need of such timepieces as we stand on our mantels or carry in our pockets in an age when a man may have a half dozen or a dozen engagements for one day and needs know the exact minute for each one of them. The earth itself in Bible times was the chief timepiece, and it turned once on its axis and that was a day, and once around the sun and that was a year.

It was not until the Fourteenth century that the almanac was born, the almanac that we toss carelessly about, not realizing that it took the accumulated ingenuity of more than 5.000 years to make one. Chronology had to bring into its service the monuments of Egypt, and the cylinders of Assyria, and the bricks of Babylon, and the pottery of Nineveh, and the medals struck at Antioch for the battle of Actium, and all the hieroglyphics that could be deciphered, and had to go into the extremely delicate business of asking the ages of Adam and Seth and Enoch and Methuselah. who after their 300th year wanted to be thought young.

I think it must have been in recognition of the stupendous work of making an almanac that all the days of the week are named after the gods Sunday, after the sun, which was of old worshiped as a god. Monday, after the moon, which was also worshiped as a god. Tuesday, after Tuesco, the god of war. Wednesday, after Woden, the chief of the Scandinavians. Thursday, after Thor, the god of thunder. Friday, after Frea, the goddess of marriage. And Saturday, after Saturn. The old Bible year began with the 25th of March. Not

the first day of the year. Improvements all along have been made in chronology until the calendar, The text chosen was Deuteronomy and the almanac, and clock, and the xxxii, 7, "Consider the years of many watch seem to have reached perfection, and all the nations of Christendom At 12 o'clock last night, while so have similarity of time calculations and many good people were watching, an have adopted what is called "new old friend passed out of our homes style," except Russis, which keeps and a stranger entered. The old what is called the "old style," and is tellow and Tennyson? What was friend making valedictory was 1892; twelve days different, so that, writing Queen Elizabeth as a specimen of the stranger arriving is 1893. The from there, if you wish to be accurate, you old friend was garrulous with the date your letter Jan. 1 and Jan. 13, Queen Victoria? What were the occurrences of many days, but the or Dec. 10 and Dec. 22. It is some cruel warriors of olden times comstranger put his finger over his lip thing to thank God for that the modes pared with the most dist and said nothing and seemed charged are so-complete for calculating the warriors of the last half century, all with many secrets and mysteries. I cycles, the centuries, the decades, the of them as much distinguished for

be wide awake now. Goodbye, 1892! in the Bible days for the time of the side communicant members of Chris-Welcome, 1893! Think of making one of tian churches, and their home life as

BE THANKFUL.

Compare these modes of marking time with our modes of marking time. is 10 o'clock, and independent of all weathers, and then thank God that you live now. But notwithstanding all the imperfect modes of marking hours or years or centuries Bible chronology never trips up, never falters, never contradicts it-self, and here is one of the best

If you can prove an alibi in the courte, and you can prove beyond of March, and the civil war of the place at the time you were charged doubt that you were in some particular with doing or saying something in quite another place, you gain the victory, and infidelity has tried to prove an alibi by contending that events and circumstances in the Bible takes six steps, but they are steps so ascribed to certain times must have long it makes us hold our breath as taken place at some other time, if they took place at all. But this book's exactus out of Egypt. From the exact fault. It has been proved that when chronology has never been caught at the Hebrews went into Egypt there were only seventy of them, and that when they came out there were 3.000 -

000 of them. "Now," says infidelity, with a guffaw that it cannot suppress, "what an absurdity! They went down into Egypt seventy and came out 3,000,000. That is a falsehood on the face of it. Nations do not increase in that ratio. But, my skeptical friend, hold moment. The Bible says the Jews were 430 years in Egypt, and that explains the increase from seventy persons to 3,000,000, for it is no more but rather less, than the ordinary increase of nations. The Pilgrim Fathers came to America in the Mayflower, one small shipload of passengers, less than 300 years ago, and now we have a nation of 60,000,000. Where, then is so called impossibility that the seventy Jews who went into Egypt in 430 years became 3,000,000? Infidelity wrong and Bible chronology right.

SPLENDID REVIEW.

that the night was divided into four hundreds of thousands have stood and can commit is to rob another of his watches—namely, the late watch, the watched the bannered armies go by, time. Hear it, ye laggards and repent! midnight, the cock crowing, the early and the huzza has been three miles long All the fingers of chronology point to watch. The clock and watch were and until the populace w re so hoarse punctuality as one of the graces. The

on Frederick the Great.

Waterloo, or Wolseley from Egypt, ten minutes apiece, and ten times five or Marlborough from Blenheim, what are fifty. military processions through Regent | If there be 500 persons present and those grand reviews together, and they are tame compared with the review which on this New Year's day you from the pew and I from the pulpit

Hear them pass in chronological order-all the years before the flood; abreast; centuries epochs abreasts; millenniums abreast, Egyptian civilization, Babylonian populations, Assyrian dominions; armies of Persian, Grecian, Peloponnesian and Roman wars; Byzantine empire, Saracenic hosts, crusaders of the first, the second, third and the last avalanche of men; Dark Ages in somber epaulets and brighter ages with shields of silver and helmets of gold; Italy, Spain, France, Russia, and present; dynasties, feudal domains, despotisms, monarchies, republics, ages on ages, ages on ages, passing today in a chronoloical review, one has no more power to look upon the advancing columns, now brilliant, now squalid, now garlanded with peace, now crimson with slaughter, now horrid with ghast-

liness, now radiant with love and joy. THE GLORIES OF THE PRESENT.

This chronological study affords among other practical thoughts especially two-the one encouraging to the last degree and the other startling. The encouraging thought is that the main drift of the centuries has been toward betterment, with only here and there a stout reversal. Grecian civilization was a vast improvement on Egyptian civilization, and Roman civilization a vast improvement on Grecian civilization, and Christian civilization is a vast improvement on Roman civilization.

What was the boasted age of Pericles compared with the age of Longmoral womanbood compared with ess the two military leaders of our civil war on northern and southern pure as their public life?

Nothing impresses me in this chronological review more than the fact that the regiments of years are better and better regiments as the troops move on. I thank God that you and I were not born any sooner than we were born. How could we have endured the disaster of being born inthe Eighteenth or Seventeenth or Sixteenth century? Glad am I that we are in the regiment now passing the reviewing stand, and that our children will pass the stand in a still better regiment. God did not build this world for a slaughter house or a den

A good deal of cleaning house will as clean and sweet as it ought to be, but the brooms, and the scrubbing we lived there, and the pears and the each other. "It is all over." plums are better than we plucked from the first trees, and the wardrobes better."

other for the new year.

have been for two business men in the time of Ahaz to make an appointment, the dial of Ahaz reaches the tenth you in the street called Straight in world on fire. Damascus in the time of the new moon," or when asked in a courtroom barnvard!"

You and I remember when minis-8 o'clock, would say, "The service will and Indian and Mediterranean sea

by Von Moltke or Blucher or the engagement be made with five persons, he has stolen fifty minutes, When Wellington and Ponsonby for he is ten minutes too late, and he and the Scots Grays came back from has robbed each of the five persons of

street and along by the palaces of he be ten minutes too late, he has com-Lordon and over the bridges of the mitted a robbery of 5,000 minutes. Thames! What almost interminable for ten times 500 are 5,000, and 5,000 lines of military on the streets of our minutes are eighty-three hours, which American capitals, while mayors and make more than three days. The governors and presidents, with un- thief of dry goods, thief of bank bills, covered heads, looked on! But put all is not half so bad as the thief of time. SOME EXAMPLES.

Dr Rush, the greatest and busiest physician of his day, appreciated the value of time, and when asked how he had been able to gather so much information for his books and lectures he replied: "I have been able to do it all the years since the flood; decades by economizing my time. I have not abreast; centuries abreast; epochs spent one hour in amusement in thirty years." And taking a blankbook from his pocket he said, "I fill a book like this every week with thoughts that occur to me and facts collected in the rooms of my patients." Napoleon appreciated the value of

time when the sun was sinking upon Waterloo, and he thought that a little more time would retrieve his fortunes and he pointed to the sinking sun and said. "What would I not give to be Germany, England and America, past this day possessed of the power of Joshua and enabled to retard thy march for two hours?" The good old woman appreciated the value of time when at ninety-three years of age she "The Judge of all the does not mean that I earth shall have any excuse for not being prepared to meet him."

Voltaire, the blatant infidel, appreciated the value of time when in his dving moments he said to his doctor. will give you half of what I am worth if you will give me six months of life," and when told that he could not live six weeks he burst into tears and said. Then I shall go to hell!" John Wesley appreciated the value of time when he stood on his steps waiting for a delayed carriage to take him to an appointment, saying, "I have lost ten minutes forever." Lord Nelson appreciated the value of time when he said. "I owe everything in the world to being always a quarter of an hour before-

A clockmaker in one of the old English towns appreciated the value of time when he put on the front of the town clock the words, "Now or when?" Mitchel, the astronomer. appreciated the value of time when part of a second." That minister of the Gospel did not appreciate the value of time who during a season of illness, instead of employing his time in useful reading or writing, wrote a silly religious romance, which in some unknown way came into the possession of the famous Joe Smith, who introduced the book as a divine /revelation. which became the foundation of Mormonism, the most beastly abomination of all time.

They best appreciate the value of time whose Sabbaths have been wasted and whose opportunities of repentance and usefulness are all agone, and who have nothing left but memories, baleful and elegiac. They stand in the bleak Sentember, with bare feet, on the sharp landau, drawn by two handsome dark stubble of a reaped wheat field, crying. "The harvest is past!" And the sough of an autumnal equinox moans forth in echo, "The harvest is past!" THE LAST OF ALL.

But do not let us get an impression from chronology that because the be necessary before this world becomes | years of time have been so long in procession they are to go on forever. Matter is not eternal. No, no! If you brushes and the upholsterers and plum- you watch half a day, or a whole day, bers are already busy, and when the or two days, as I once did, to see a world gets fixed up, as it will be, if military procession you remember the Adam and Eve ever visit it, as I ex- last brigade, and the last regiment, pect they will, they will say to each and the last company finally passed other, "Well, this beats paradise when on, and as we rose to go we said to

So this mighty procession of earthly vears will terminate. Just when I are more complete, and the climate is have no power to prognosticate, but science confirms the Bible prophecy Since I settled in my own mind the that the earth cannot always last. Infact that God was stronger than the deed there has been a fatality of devil I have never lost faith in the worlds. The moon is merely the corpse emparadisation of this planet. With of what it once was, and scientists have the exception of a retrogression in the again and again gone up in their Dark Ages, the movement of the observatories to attend the deathbed world has been on and on, and up and of dying worlds and have seen them up, and I have two jubilant hosannas cremated. So I am certain, both from -one for the closing year and the the Word of God and science, that the world's chronology will sooner or later come to its last chapter.

The final century will arrive and But the other thought coming out pass on, and then will come the final of this subject is that Biblical chro- decade and then the final year, and nology, and indeed all chronology, is the final month, and the final day. urging the world to more punctuality The last spring will swing its censer and immediateness. What an unsat of apple blossoms and the last winter isfactory and indefinite thing it must bank its snows. The last sunset will burn like Moscow and the last, morning radiate the hills. The clocks will saying, "We will settle that business strike their last hour, and the watches matter to morrow when the shadow on will tick their last second. No incendiaries will be needed to run step from the top," or "I will meet hither and you with torches to set the yer will make her tell another and ap-

very inflammable element in water. what time an occurence took place While oxygen makes up a part of the should answer "It was during the water, the other part of the water is time of the latter rain," or "It was at hydrogen, and that is very combusti the time of the third crowing of the ble. The oxygen drawn out from the water, the inflammable hydrogen will put instantly into conflagration the ters of the Gospel in the country, Hudsons and Savannahs and Missisgiving out a notice of an evening sippis and Rhines and Urals and service, instead of saying at 6 or 7 or Danubes, and Atlantic and Pacific New York Press. begin at early candle light." Thank God for chronological achievements which have ushered in calendars and foot on the surf of the sea and the almanacs and clocks and watches, and other on the beach and cry to the of the creation and the geologists account of the creation are completely harmonious. Chronology enters the book of Daniel and says that the words "time and a half" mean a year words "time and a half" mean a year that the most of you have never given words "time and a half" mean a year that the most of you have never given words "time and a half" mean a year that the most of you have never given with a time and a half" mean a year that the most of you have never given with a time and a half" mean a year that the most of you have never given with more that the most of you have never given with more that the most of you have never given with more that the most of you have never given with more that the most of you have never given with more that the most of you have never given with more that the most of you have never given with more that the most of you have never given with more that the most of you have never given with more that the most of you have never given with more that the most of you have never given with more that the most of you have never given with more that the most of you have never given with more that the most of you have never given with more that the most of you have never given with more that the most of your have never given with more that the most of your have never given with more than the most of your have never given with more than the most of your have never given with th chronology enters at another point and that this is the first sermon ever mortal; look out for that minute; look Christmes or New Year's morn. When wrapt in fire the realms of ether glow And heaven's last thunder shakes the earth

below. Thou, undismayed, shalt o'er the ruin smile And light thy torch at mature's funeral pile. The Limit Reached.

Little Clarence-Pa, if a man from Portugal is a Portuguese, is his little boy a Portugosling? Mr. Bosanko-It will be your bedtime in fifteen minutes. Clarence-May I ask one more ques-

tion, pa? times. Ahaz and a sundial or a flight the palaced and statued Unter den pf stairs with solumn at the top, and strewn garlands and the shadow which that column under the feet of uniformed hosts led number of persons present by ten. If

Mr. Bosanko—If it is not a foolish one. Clarence—Well, pa, why doesn't Wednesday come on Saturday?

In the palaced and statued Unter den a crime the enormity of which can clarence—Well, pa, why doesn't Wednesday come on Saturday?

In the palaced and statued Unter den a crime the enormity of which can clarence—Well, pa, why doesn't Wednesday come on Saturday?

In the palaced and statued Unter den a crime the enormity of which can clarence—Well, pa, why doesn't Wednesday come on Saturday?

In the palaced and statued Unter den a crime the enormity of which can control to the column at the top, and strewn garlands only be estimated by multiplying the nesday come on Saturday?

In the palaced and statued Unter den a crime the enormity of which can control to the column at the top, and strewn garlands only be estimated by multiplying the nesday come on Saturday?

In the palaced and statued Unter den a crime the enormity of which can control to the column at the top, and the column at the top and the column at the column at the top and the column at the column at the top and the column at the column at

COMING SOUVENIRS

How the World's Fair Half Dollars Were Strock Off with Few Pour Once. The preparations had been a subject of great anxiety and interest to Superintendent Bosbyshell and his assistants at the mint for some time past, and 10 o'clock found all arrangements fully completed in accordance with carefully prepared plans. When the hour arrived Superintendent Bosbyshell was summoned to the pressroom by Chief Coiner William S. Steele, while Engraver Charles Harber, who designed the famous coin; Chief Clerk M. H. Cobb and others assembled

They gathered around an improved automatic, toggle jointed coining press -a noiseless, powerful, highly polished and wonderfully accurate machinewhich excites the admiration of all visitors. Two dies, one bearing the impresion to be stamped upon the obverse face and the other the reverse, and the only pair in existence, were already in place. Beside the press stood a receptable containing hundreds of shining planchetsblank silver pieces, polished and milled ready for stamping. No power was applied to the machine for the first test. Instead Foreman Albert Downing placed one of the blank planchets in the receiver and grasped the lever which raises the ower die, while Edwin Cliff, his assistant, stood at the balance wheel. Then came the critical moment. -In another second the blank coin which had been prepared might be worth \$10,000, or, if mperfect, about thirty-five cents.

The first attempt was a failure. Just little flaw in the planchet or perhaps a little speak of dirt or grease smeared upon its face caused the coin's rejection. Cliff picked it carefully from the die, for such coins are not allowed to drop into the box beneath, lest they be marked by the fall. To an ordinary observer it might have appeared perfect, but the coiner and designer examined it under a glass. One glance was enough. A fatal flaw was revealed, and the verdict which consigned the prospective \$10,000 beauty to the scrapbox was pronounced. nammer was at hand, and what might have been the most famous coin in his tory was battered into comparatively worthless metal.

The next attempt was made more carefully, for the reputation of the coiners was at stake, and they had resolved that the first souvenir of the exposition should be a marvel of perfection and beauty. The planchet before being accepted was examined under the microscope and found without blemish. For the second time the two workmen turned the press by hand, while the spectators waited in suspense. Again the coin was lifted from the face of the steel die and critically examined by Coiner Steele, Engraver Harber and Superintendent Bosbyshell. Every line was sharply defined, and the strong features of the discoverer of America which adorned the he said, "I have been in the habit of face of the coin seemed to look approvcalculating the value of a thousandth | ingly on the work. Columbus himself could not have done better, and Uncle Sam's reputation as an artist was vindicated.

Cardboard boxes had been prepared for the reception of the coins very much like those in which pills are sold! No finger touched the first of these souvenirs, but the pliers gently clutched it by the rim and conveyed the \$10,000 lump to the box, which was immediately sealed and handed to the World's fair commissioner.-Philadelphia Cor. Washington Post.

Happy Skye Terrier.

A curious if not wholly pleasing spectacle for the typical American, especial ly the typical American out of a job the aristocratic occupant of a splendid very pleasant afternoon. An open bay horses, elegantly caparisoned; an athletic looking coschman in light drab, with red trimmings, and occasionally s young footman in the same livery. That is the turnout, and it is quite as swagger a thing as is to be seen in that line about New York. The carriage is worth not less than \$2,500, and the horses and gold mounted harness must be worth as much more, while the coachman and his companion would have brought a cool thousand spiece before the war, though they are really white and very English, you

know.
The occupant of this swell establishment is a thin, consumptive looking individual called by experts in his kind s skye terrier. Silvered o'er with spiky hair of no particular color, his little beady eyes glistening from the recesses of his moppy weazened countenance, his nose and every other portion of his anatomical system being invisible, this insignificant personage sits alone on the back seat, if not grand, at least gloomy and peculiar.

Within the physical possibilities no emote from the butcher's trade he would probably be worth ten cents. For my own purposes I would unhesitatingly say ten cents a bunch would be an extravagant price for such as he. Yet it akes a five thousand dollar turnout and an able bodied coachman and footman to give this poor little "critter"—the pet pup of some royal American family-his daily airing .- New York Herald.

Witnesses Feared by Lawyers. The best witnesses are nervous ones, who are afraid that they will never be able to speak so as to be heard in court. And the worst ones to tackle are those who are telling the truth. If a witness has truth on her side she may be ever-so timid, but she will tell a straight story, and the most astute lawyer in the world can neither shake nor break her word. If a witness is telling a lie a clever lawother and another until she has weven such a network of lies around herself that it is comparatively easy to break up one of them, and so the whole struc-Clemistry teaches us that there is a ture falls through.

It is easy to win a case for a woman The natural chivalry of American men makes them in sympathy with a woman when they would feel none at all for a man. Any able lawyer will tell you that he finds it easier to carry through one weak case for a woman than half & dozen strong ones for a man.—Abe Hummel in

Wonderful Work of Bees. Bees must, in order to collect a penno of clover honey, deprive 62,000 clover blossoms of their nectar. To do this the 62,000 flowers must be visited by an aggregate of 3,750,000 bees; or in other words, to collect his pound of honey one bee must make 3,750,000 trips from and to the hive. The enormous amount of work here involved precludes the idea of any one bee ever living long enough to gather more than a fraction of a pound of nectarine sweets.

As bees are known to fly for miles in quest of suitable fields of operation, it is clear that a single ounce of honey represents millions of miles of travel. It is no wonder that these industrious little insects have earned the reputation of being "busy" bees.—St. Louis Republic.

A Bad Way to Light a Match. Morris Greenbaum, thirteen years old, tried to scratch a match on his knickerbockers, yesterday afternoon and the flame caught his jacket. He was severely burned about the body and was removed to the Presbyterian hospital.-

CRAZED BY THE COMET.

Prospective Arrival of Biela's Orb Left Its Influence Behind. There are wise people to-day who believe that the proximity of a comet to the earth brings with it various diseases. mental as well as physical disturbances. "I never took any stock in this comet business," said a practical friend of mine. "I've seen several comets in my time and read all sorts of rot about them, very little of which I believed. But this comet"-

He paused and drew me away from the crowd. Having glanced about him uneasily, he continued:

"This comet nearly drove my wife crazy! Yes, sir; fact! And she's nearly driven me crazy. Do you-have you seen anything queer about me lately?"

I told him I had not—that he locked as sane as his average fellow mortal. "Well." he resumed, "I've run mighty narrow chance, I tell you. But she's cured now. If this infernal comet hadn't gone away just when it did should have been locked up by this time. "My wife is ordinarily a quiet little woman and takes no particular interest

in the newspapers except when there is a mysterious murder case like the great Maybrick poisoning case or the Carlyle Harris case, or something like thatsomething mysterious, you know. Then she grabs the newspapers and reads up on it, and thinks about it, and talks about it, and advances theories about it, and thoroughly masters it, hanging the defendant every day. She can find more clews than the whole metropolitan police force. She pounces down upon me at breakfast with her theories and clews and suspicions, and as these are changed after reading the evening papers 1 get another dose at night.

"But this comet! She has been

stricken-yes, sir, stricken-by the mysterious influence the comet is said to have upon the human mind! It was manifest in her the very day she fead the dispatches and the differences of learned opinion as to whose comet it was and its probable orbit, its distance, the number of sparks in its tail, etc. If it had been a straightforward comet and come right out where everybody could see it and where everybody expected it, she would have been all serene. But the mystery of the thing, the uncertainty, the disagreement of astronomers-that settled her. She began reading up on the comet from the newspapers. As every newspaper differed. and every authority in every newspaper differed with every other authority in that or any other newspaper, she found herself suddenly plunged into a whirl of excitement.

"She sprang comet on me every hour in the day and swept the heavens with a 2-inch opera glass every night. She had a sort of idea that redhot chunks of iron were liable to drop into our flat. She went up on the roof to see the meteoric shower and got locked out up her she'd have been frozen to death. She got up ten times a night to look out, and once she said she smelled sulphur. She slipped out of bed the first thing in the morning and read what the papers said about the comet, then went back to bed again. When I sat down to breakfast with my paper she was loaded for me. You could see a hazy red light hanging over the Jersey horizon from our windows, and she had those windows open so much at night we all got colds and snuffles. On Sunday night the sky over there was bright red at intervals. Well, she was just wild. Then she smelled the sulphur in the air. I never saw a woman get so excited. She scarcely

slept a wink. "The next morning, when she found that it was the Jersey meadows on fire and that she hadn't seen the comet at all, she was the most disgusted woman you ever saw. She won't touch a newspaper now. She says the newspapers are the biggest liars-next to the astronomers-on earth. If I say 'comet' at her now she is as mad as a hornet. "In my opinion, it's been a confounded fraud all along. This man Biela, or

Beely, ought to get six months on the island."-New York Herald.

Rare Relics Unearthed. Four of the most remarkable relics discovered have just been found in the western Egyptian oasis of Theba and sent to the Louvre in Paris for exhibition. They are plaster casts busts. These busts originated during the brief era of prosperity at the close of the Second and the beginning of the Third century of our time. They are not, as it would seem, detached pieces of statues, but are complete in themselves. They are masks used for a special class of mummies, and like most of the Egyptian curiosities come from the grave. The departed members of wealthy families were provided not only with sepulchers. but with a sort of armor composed of several pieces, which completely incased the dead body. The feet were thrust into a pocket shaped affair like a carriage foot warmer, and separate pieces were made for chest and neck, as well as the hair, with a mask for the face, which often resembled the features of the dead .- St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

A Yarn from Red Bluft. A few days ago James R. Holt went for a quail hunt along the banks of the Sacramento river. Under a cover of brush he discovered a nice flock of birds. but when he raised his gun to have a shot they disappeared. He felt satisfied that there were quite a number under a particular bush and he blazed away. The noisy fluttering which followed told him the result and he ran for his prize, and just as he was reaching out his hand to catch a wounded quail he was suddenly shocked to discover an enormous rattlesnake in the line of the bird. He approached the birds again with his gun cocked and ready for a sudden

shot, and learned that the snake was dead. When he fired at the birds he killed the snake and six quail, although none of the birds or the serpent were in view. The snake had eight rattles and a button and was 31/2 feet in length .-Red Bluff (Cal.) News. An Old Lady's Way.

A happy and vigorous old lady in New Impehire gives these rules for the se cret of the success of eighty years' living on this planet, which brings so much care and worry to many of her sisters; "I never allow myself to fret over things \[ \text{campa-like} \]. I take a nap, and some-times the, every day of my life. I never take my washing, ironing or baking to bed with me, and I try to oil all the various wheels of a busy life with an implicit belief that there are a brain and a heart to this great universe, and that I can trust them both."

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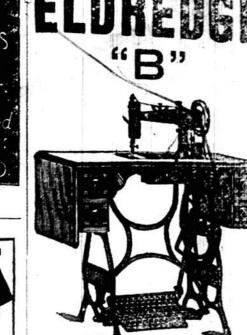
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