A collector of shoes who died lately in San Francisco had a collection of 500 little duffers.

An expert says that the easiest way to clean rubber shoes of any kind is to rub them with vaseline.

No Heligolander under sixteen years of age is allowed to go to a public house, dancing saloon or theater.

This is an age when the luxuries can be had cheaply. Fine oysters in season now sell for 31 and fountain pens for ten cents.

Here is a consistency for you. The proprietor of a Philadelphia cigar store has posted a sign in his place forbidding smoking.

The chief of police in Chicago is a reformer. He wants more light in the city. And says that light is a great preventive of crime.

People are never satisfied with their position. The fool in King Lear says: "I had rather be any kind of a thing than a fool!"

Helena, Mont., boasts that it is the wealthiest city in the union of its population. It contains 25,000 people and has 39 millions.

Philadelphia has a blue book, but many of the most fashionable people do not appear in it, having made the point not to be included.

Fiji is beginning to cultivate tobacco, the enterprise being assisted by the concession of government land to the planters on easy terms.

Air ships move, but they seldom reach the point where they intend to, while mechanment to the view. They are short distance. "Birds!"

The emperor of Germany has been reckless, but he has turned around and now being a spendthrift he has become a man of right economy.

Five hundred applications have been made to the department of the interior of Toronto for the privilege of boring for oil in the Kootenay country.

The German cavalry will try the horse shoe made of compressed paper. It is thought they will be better than the old iron ones so long in vogue.

SYRUP of FIGS

ONE ENJOYS

Both the method and results when Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant and refreshing to the taste, and acts gently yet promptly on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, cleanses the system effectually, dispels colds, headaches and fevers and cures habitual constipation. Syrup of Figs is the only remedy of its kind ever produced, pleasing to the taste, and acceptable to the stomach, prompt in its action and truly beneficial in its effects, prepared only from the most healthy and agreeable substances, its many excellent qualities commend it to all and have made it the most popular remedy known.

Syrup of Figs is for sale in 50c and $1 bottles by all leading druggists. Any reliable druggist who may not have it on hand will procure it promptly for any one who wishes to try it. Do not accept any substitute.

CALIFORNIA FIG SYRUP CO.
SAN FRANCISCO, CAL.
LOUISVILLE, KY. NEW YORK, N.Y.

"German Syrup"

J. C. Davis, Rector of St. James' Episcopal Church, Eufaula, Ala.: "My son has been badly afflicted with a distressful throat trouble, coughing for several months, and after trying several prescription from physicians which failed to relieve him, he has been perfectly restored by the use of two bottles of your German Syrup. An Episcopal Rector. I can recommend it without hesitation. Chronic severe, deep-seated coughs like this are as severe tests as a remedy can be subjected to. It is for these long-standing cases that Boschee's German Syrup is made a specialty. Many others afflicted as this lad was, will do well to make a note of this.

J. F. Arnold, Montevideo, Minn., writes: I always use German Syrup for a Cold on the Lungs. I have never found an equal to it—far less a superior.

G. G. GREEN, Sole Man'fr, Woodbury, N.J.

The Soap that Cleans Most is Lenox.

KIDDER'S PASTILLES, A sure cure for Asthma and Bronchitis. 25c. by mail. Sc. well & dealers. Prepared only by T. KIDDER, Chemist, Boston, Mass.

MOTHERS' FRIEND MAKES CHILD BIRTH EASY IF USED BEFORE CONFINEMENT.

Book to "Mothers" Mailed Free. BRADFIELD REGULATOR CO., ATLANTA, GA. SOLD BY ALL DRUGGISTS.

FREE Illustrated Publications, With Maps, describing Minnesota, North Dakota, Montana, Idaho, Washington and Oregon, the Great Wheat Region, and the NORTHERN PACIFIC R. R. LANDS for sale on easy terms. Mailed FREE. Address Land Commissioner, N. P. R. R. St. Paul, Minn.

BOILING WATER OR MILK.

EPPS'S GRATEFUL—COMFORTING. COCOA

LABELLED ½ LB. TINS ONLY.

Back Where They Used to Be.

Pap's got his patent right, and rich as all creation;
But Mother's the peace and comfort that we all had before;
Let's go a-visitin' back to Grigsby Station—
Back where we used to be so happy and so pore!

Climb clean above the roof and look from the highest—
And never see a robin, nor a beech or ellum tree!
As right here, in earshot of at least a thousan' people,
And none that neighbors with us or we want to go and see!

Let's go a-visitin' back to Grigsby Station—
Back where the hatchet-strip's a-hangin' from the door,
And every neighbor 'round the place is dear as a relation—
Back where we used to be so happy and so pore!

I want to see Meriady and help her with her sewin',
And hear her talk so lovin' of her man that's off to war;
And stand up with Emanuel, to show me how he's a-growin',
And smile as I have saw her fore she put her mourdnis on.

And I want to see the Samples, on the old Ridge Road—
Where John, our oldest boy, he was took and buried;
His own sake and Katy's—and I want to cry with Katy
As she reads all his letters over, writ from the War.

What's in all this great life and high ettot-tion,
And tarry pink nor hollyhawk bloomin' at the door,
Let's go a-visitin' back to Grigsby Station—
Back where we used to be so happy and so pore.

James Whitcomb Riley.

A SOCIAL SHOCK.

Dinner was announced immediately after Mrs. Washington Mostyn entered the drawing-room, and indeed it appeared that the party were only awaiting her arrival to put an end to classic bad quarter of an hour.

"My dear," whispered Mrs. Kendal, "I am going to send you down with a most charming young man, Algie Upham, a cousin of the duchess of Liverpool. I think he's quite one of the nicest men in London—and so artistic, don't you know."

Mrs. Mostyn raised her tortoise-shell lorgnette in the direction of the gentleman indicated, and was pleased to make an inspection and give an opinion in a little more than five seconds.

"Charmed, I am sure. What a good-looking young man. Ah, I see—race and intelligence mark."

"Yes, both. But allow me to introduce you," said Lady Kendal. In another minute or so the women were trailing their silken and velvet skirts down-stairs to the dining-room.

Mrs. Washington Mostyn belonged to the "Four Hundred" of New York, if not by birth, at any rate by marriage. Her husband, who was content to pursue operations in Wall street most of the year round, was willing that she should cultivation of society to his handsome wife. Their brown-stone mansion on Fifth avenue was as gorgeous as fancy of their neighbors could make it, and understood better the art of "blooming" as entertainment and getting herself talked about than Mrs. Washington Mostyn of New York. And then her "cottage" at Newport was it not celebrated in every paper throughout the length and breadth of the continent? It was there that she entertained lavish migratory members of the English aristocracy in spent of amusement, wives, or sport—thereby forming connections which she meant to push vigorously now that she had actually arrived in London.

Had not Lord Birkenhead the duchess of Liverpool's eldest boy, been one of these fated and flattered young sters? And was not the dear duchess proportionately grateful and inclined to open the ducal arms in a manner that she was not wont to do with certain dear friends and rivals from New York and Washington? And as to the society of which this fastidious lady was so distinguished an ornament, was it not the most select and high-toned—as the transatlantic scribe would put it—to be found on the same footing? But Mrs. Washington Mostyn had still one unsatisfied ambition, and that was to become a social "fashion-monger as her fair friends and neighbors had contrived to make themselves. To London, of course, like every other self-respecting American, she had been with a view with the London of hotels, parks, and theaters only that she was familiar, but its society was had never penetrated.

And so it came to pass that Mrs. Mostyn, leaving her husband to perform his vocation in Wall street, caused several enormous trunks to be packed, and, arming herself with introductions to some of the best people in London, took herself, her maid, and her courtier by the next steamer to Liverpool, landing on these shores by the beginning of July. Lady Kendal, who loved above all things a new face, had been one of the first hostesses to make much of her.

It was rather an amusing table, though it somewhat shocked Mrs. Mostyn's fastidious sense of the social proprieties. Looking round, she was struck with the familiar look of the faces, and, as a matter of fact, she could have seen most of the persons present by taking a walk down Bond street and glancing in the hotographer's windows as she went along.

Lady Kendal's parties were celebrated in their way, for she was an irreverent modern journalist has not inaptly called a "mixer." She would send down a famous poet with an ambassadress, a cabinet minister with a pretty actress, or consign a great lady to a fashionable singer. It was a social salad, and people pleased, once in a way, to meet celebrities of whom they had heard a great deal. Mrs. Mostyn, like all of the "Four Hundred," knew little, and approved less of "mixing." She would as soon have passed Li Sing, her laundryman, to dinner as some of the actors, journalists, and painters whom Lady Kendal liked to see occasionally at her table. To-night, however, across the banks of mauve and white orchids, Mrs. Mostyn could catch the profile of her grace of Liverpool smiling in a handsome Polish fashion to Lord and Lady Kendal's left, and what appeared to be the back of the head of the "Right Honorable" Algernon Upham, the duchess's cousin, was directly opposite her own.

"Charming, charming woman," she thought, "to take to the play, to square one in the park, and to forget one's cards on a rainy day!" He had such perfect taste and such an eye for color, for when the tall, soft sometimes will, turned on chiffon, Mrs. Mostyn was astonished to hear her neighbor give an almost subtle feminine opinion on some point in dispute.

"Why, I believe you know more about it than I do," declared the lady, laughing.

"Well, I ought to, I suppose."

Mrs. Mostyn was so mystified that, for a perceptible instant, she found absolutely nothing to say. He evidently imagined that she knew all about it. With the tact of her sex, Mrs. Mostyn promptly turned the talk into generalities again, determined to ask her hostess all about her fascinating neighbor as soon as the ladies reached the drawing-room.

But the fates were against her. Lady Kendal was monopolized by an elderly matron, who never let go her hideous little nose-nippers till the men joined the room, and when they did so it was by Algie Upham who slipped into the vacant chair by Mrs. Mostyn's side. This was commencement indeed in the nature of woman to withstand.

"Come and dine with me on Friday night," she said, as she at last rose to go. "100 Lowndes square at 8 o'clock. Don't say you can't; one or two nice people are coming."

"I would be more than charmed," replied the young man, bending, in his pretty, half-foreign way, over the lady's hand; "but you'll come to me, I hope, one day, and see Lady Kendal is coming to-morrow."

"Why, yes, I think I could go to-morrow," said Mrs. Mostyn; and so the thing was settled.

On the following day Mrs. Washington Mostyn was laid put on her most gorgeous array. She thought that she was enough in London to know that here women do not bedeck themselves in the afternoon—pitiful down to her little coupe, and directed the man to drive to Lady Kendal's, thoroughly pleased with herself and the world in general. She was going to see the charming young man of the night before, and the charming young man was going to dine with her on Friday. Moreover, she had on her most becoming bonnet.

The two ladies chatted coolly as the carriage bowled along.

"I'm so glad you could come," said Lady Kendal; "I'm sure you'll think his taste perfect. He has such lovely things."

"Lovely things?" inquired Mrs. Mostyn, with rising enthusiasm. She was one of those women who like the heroes of the moment—that is, as they were, in a framework of luxury.

"Yes; brocades, such as you can't get for love or money. They are all specially manufactured from his own designs."

"He must be very rich," said the American. "That's the sort of thing our millionaires do at home."

"Well, Algie must make $5,000 or $6,000 a year, I should guess," rejoined Lady Kendal, thoughtfully. "You see, he is so well connected. All the smartest women in London go to Algie."

If Mrs. Mostyn whispered for an instant how the society of smart women justified such reckless extravagance she said nothing, having a horror of appearing ignorant of London or the ways of London.

"You get on capitally," continued Lady Kendal. "Algie is so fond of Americans. You see they don't mind what they spend."

"No?" said Mrs. Mostyn, who was now thoroughly mystified; and just then the carriage drew up at a smart-looking house in a Mayfair street, the house all painted black with yellow silk curtains and blinds, and dassies and spirea in the window-boxes.

The door was opened by a manservant in livery, and the ladies were shown up-stairs into a large room like a studio. The walls were of golden leather, with draperies and curtains of dull gold silk, and here and there a touch of turquoise blue or faint pink, through which gold shone. A piano in the harmonious picture in which the wood mantlepiece, the soft Persian carpet and the exquisite old mezzotints on the walls seemed placed their part. One or two Chippendale cabinets displayed specimens of rare Nankin, the couch and lounges invited you to chat, and on every table and in every nook stood flowers and gaiety.

If Algie master was engaged for the moment, the man announced, he would be with the ladies in a few minutes.

"What a perfectly charming studio!" cried Mrs. Mostyn, peering round in her pretty, short-sighted way. "I don't see any canvases or the usual artistic mess."

"Canvases? Why should there be, my dear?"

"Well, but, isn't Mr. Upham an artist?"

"Artist!" cried Lady Kendal; "what an idea! Why, you don't know—I thought everybody knew—Mr. Upham is the fashionable dressmaker. His professional name is Eugene" but we call him Algie. Isn't it quaint? Apparently delighted with his neighbor, a little Virginian beauty who had written some rather pretty verses.

"Why couldn't Lady Kendall have told me what his line is?" thought Mrs. Mostyn, glancing at her partner as she settled herself in her place. "I hate talking to a man I know nothing about. Sport—art—the Gaiety? What shall it be? I have—polo! All Englishmen play polo, and if they don't they like you to think they do."

But it was not, after all, of polo that Mrs. Algernon Upham conversed. He had a hundred amusing stories to tell stories of the Prince of Wales, of London, of great people in Vienna, of the ateliers in Paris.

"You paint, then?" asked Mrs. Mostyn, when the talk turned on the last subject.

I used to," said Upham modestly, "I have almost given it up now; in fact, I think I have. For the last five years working in the Paris studios, and at the end of that time I came to the conclusion that I knew almost nothing about it.

"Ah, that is your modesty. I am sure you do know all about it" replied the lady, and she was pleased with her little pause, during which the young man smiled and hesitated, as if he were about to say more. Mrs. Mostyn, seeing that she had unwittingly touched on personal matters, adroitly turned the talk into another channel. The American was charmed with her neighbor. He was not only young, handsome, and amusing, but he seemed (no slight recommendation in her eyes) to be connected with various smart and imposing English families. With the enterprise of her sex and nation she determined to know Algie. What a charming young man," she thought, "to take to the play, to square one in the park, and to forget one's cards on a rainy day!" He had such perfect taste and such an eye for color, for when the tall, soft sometimes will, turned on chiffon, Mrs. Mostyn was astonished to hear her neighbor give an almost subtle feminine opinion on some point in dispute.

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But it was not, after all, of polo that

Author of "Monica," "Nora Sevilly," "Phyllis," etc., etc.

THE HAUNTED CHAMBER.

BY "THE DUCHESS."

CHAPTER VIII.

It is now "golden September," and a few days later. For the last fortnight Florence has been making strenuous efforts to leave the castle, but Dora would not hear of their departure, and Florence, feeling it will be selfish of her to insist, Dora's happy hours with her supposed lover, sighs, and gives in, and sacrifices her own wishes on the altar of friendship.

It is five o'clock, and all the men, gun in hand, have been out on the moors all day. Now they are coming straggling home, in one or two. Amongst the first to return are Sir Adrian and cousin Arthur Dynecourt, who, having met accidentally about a mile from home, have trudged the remainder of the way together.

On the previous night at dinner, Miss Delmaine had spoken of a small gold bangle, a favorite of hers, she was greatly in the habit of wearing. She said she had lost it, and that she could not tell, and she expressed herself as being very grieved for its loss, as the bracelet was a present, and would give any reward claimed by any one who should restore it to her. Two or three had rushed off to their rooms to search themselves to devote their lives to the search, but Adrian had said nothing. Nevertheless, he had, in his mind all that night and all next day. Now he can not refrain from speaking about it, for the man he considers his rival.

"Odd thing about Miss Delmaine's bangle," he remarks carelessly.

"Very odd. I have say her mind has put it somewhere and forgotten it."

"Hardly. One would not put a bracelet anywhere but in a jewel-case or in a safe place. She says she has not dropped it somewhere."

"I dare say, those Indian bangles are very fashionable, and they are not bright, his lips tighten and grow flat.

"Do you remember," he says, turning to his cousin with all the air of one to whom a sudden inspiration has come, "that day when we visited the haunted chamber? Miss Delmaine accompanied, she did she not?"

"Yes," looking at him expectantly.

"Could she have dropped it there?" asks Arthur, slowly. "Of course, it would be odd if she had—why I mean any sort of place to drop one's trinkets."

"It is just a place I should look for, before," responds Adrian, evidently struck by the suggestion. "Why, it must have been the last thing she missed when she lost it. The more I think of it the more convinced I feel that it is there."

"Nonsense, my dear fellow, don't jump at conclusions so hastily. It is highly improbable. I should say that she dropped it anywhere else in the world."

"Well, I'll go and see at all events," declares Adrian, unconvinced.

It is some little time subsequent of grace, some vague human shrinking from the crime that has begun to form itself in his mind, that he has not yet indorses Dynecourt to try to dissuade Sir Adrian from his declared intention to go to the haunted chamber in search of the lost bangle. With all his eloquence he seeks to convince him that there the bangle will not have gone, but in vain, no effect. His suggestion has taken firm root in Sir Adrian's mind, and at last Arthur, seeing that it would be useless to bind for it in that uncanny chamber, it is worth a try. It may be that the sudden possibility drives him to his fate.

"Well, if you go alone and unprotected, you will be even more likely to see what I say," Dynecourt lightly, at last surrendering the position. "Remember what terrible things I told you I saw there."

As Arthur finishes his speech a sinister smile overspreads his pale features, and a quick flash of joy leaps into his eyes. But Sir Adrian sees nothing of this. He is looking at his cousin's face, and it seems to him hideous in the red light of the dying sun. He is looking, too, at the old tower, and at the upper window, which is the haunted chamber, stands, and where he can see the window boards that served for windows. How little could the man imprisoned there see of the busy world without!

"Yes, I'll remember," he says jestingly. "When the ghosts of my ancestors claim me as their victim, and incarcerate me in some fiendish dungeon, I shall remember your words and your advice."

"You don't mean to go there, of course?" asks Arthur carelessly, whilst watching the other with eager scrutiny, "I was only joking when I told that idle tale, and it will be useless."

"No, it distresses you, consider I haven't gone," says Adrian lightly.

"That is right," rejoins Arthur, still with his keen eyes fixed upon his cousin. "I knew you would abandon that foolish intention. I certainly shall consider you have done so."

They are at the hall door as these words pass. Arthur's lips, and there they separate. Sir Adrian passes on to his study, and going away up the large hall whistling gaily.

Which he has turned one corner. Arthur goes quickly after him, but with the intention of overtaking him, but of keeping him in view. His object is as follows, as though fearful of being seen.

There is no servant within sight. No friend comes across Sir Adrian's path. All is silent. The old house seems stripped in stillness. Above, the portraits gazes in their dainty teacowns are sipping lichea and prattling scandal, below, the domestics are occupied in their household affairs.

Without anything gratefully, sees Sir Adrian go quickly up the broad front staircase, after which he turns aside, and, as though filled with guilty fear, rushes through one passage to another, until he arrives in the corridor that belongs to the servants' quarters.

Coming to a certain door, he opens it, not without some difficulty, and, going into the dark landing that lies beyond it, looks around. To any casual observer it might seem strange that a gentleman of the old world of chivalry should forgotten place have lately been brushed away, as by a figure ascending and descending the gloomy staircase. To Arthur these signs bring no surprise, which proves that he perhaps, has the best right to know whose figure brushed them aside.

Hurrying up the stairs, after closing the door carefully and noiselessly behind him he reaches, after considerable windings of what seem to be interminable steps, the upper door he had opened on the day they had visited the haunted chamber, when Ringwood and he had had a passage-at arms about his curiosity.

Now he stands breathing heavily outside this door, wrapped in the dismal darkness of the staircase, listening intently, as it were, for the coming of a footstep.

In the meantime, Sir Adrian, not dissuaded from his determination to explore the lower floor of the castle, runs gaily up the grand staircase, traverses the corridors and galleries, and finally comes to the door of the iron-bound doors. Opening it, he stands upon the landing that leads to the other door by means of the small stone staircase. Here he pauses.

Is it some vague shadowy sense of danger that makes him stand now as though hesitating? A quick shiver runs through him.

"How cold it is," he says to himself, "even on this hot day, up in this melancholy place." Yet, he is quite unconscious of the pair that are listening for his lightest movement, of the wicked eyes that are watching him through a chink in the opposite door!

Now he steps forward again, and, muttering the last few words, opens the fatal door and looks into the room. Even now it occurs to him how unpleasant might be the consequences should the door close and the secret lock fasten him in against his will. He pushes the door well open, and looks so, and then tries whether it can fall to again of its own accord, and so make a prisoner of him.

No; it stands quite open, immovable apparently, and so, convinced that he has been enough, he commences his search. Then, swift as lightning, a form darts from its concealed position, rushes up to the open doorway, stealthily creeping still nearer, glances into the room.

Sir Adrian's back is turned; he is stooping, looking in every corner for the missing prize. He sees nothing, hears nothing, though a treacherous form crouching on the threshold is making ready to seal his doom.

Arthur Dynecourt draws forth his hand, which neither trembles nor falters on its deadly mission, silently lays hold on the door, and with a force that would ward him the secret lock clicks sharply, and separates the victim from the world.

Stealthily even now—his evil deed accomplished—Arthur Dynecourt retreats down the stairs, and when he does not hear a sound until at length he stands panting, but relentless, in the servant's quarters again.

Remorse he knows not. But a certain sense of fear holds him irresolute. Nevertheless, this terrible night and the cold dews upon his brow. His secret is safely secured, out of all harm's way. So far as he can discover. No human being saw him go to the illfated tower; no human voice heard him declare his intention of visiting it for the missing trinket. He—Arthur had been most careful before starting from him to express his settled fear that Sir Adrian would not go to the haunted chamber, and therefore it was prepared to defend his case successfully, even should the baronet be lucky enough to find the deliverer.

Yet he is not quite easy in his mind. Fear of discovery, fear of Sir Adrian's displeasure, fear of the scorn of Dora, the hope that already seeps to dangle in red lines before his eyes render him a pitiful object. He could flee, to the earth. Shall he return and release his prisoner, and treat the whole thing as a joke, and so leave Adrian to dispense his bounty at the castle, to entertain in his lavish fashion, to secure the woman upon whom Sir Arthur has set his heart for his bride?

No, a thousand times no! A few short days and all will belong to Arthur Dynecourt. He will be "Sir Arthur" then, and the bride he covets will be unable to resist the temptation of a title, and the chance of being mistress of the castle. Adrian will be forgotten, and indeed what possibly could there be in its bare walls and its blood-stained floors to attract any one? No; surely it is the last place to suspect any one would go to without good reason for there! Arthur Dynecourt has indeed run a risk, but he considers the chances of being discovered in the worst so infinitesimal that he dismisses it from his mind, and, with a sigh of relief, turns away from the door, and, with a sigh of relief, turns away from the door, and, with a sigh of relief, turns away from the door