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PATENTS

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SWING SONG.

Up and down in the swaying swing

Brother is swinging me;

Like the swallows he makes me fly—

The air and the leaves go rushing by;

I can look clear away when I go so

high.

And there's so many things to see!

Brother's so strong and big and good;

His smiles when he calls to me;

I can see for an instant over the wall,

Where the trees by the shore let their

shadows fall,

And when he runs under, I see so

small.

The boats far out on the sea.

Every time when the swing comes

back,

How he pushes—you ought to see!

And if even the treetops are holding

still,

When I'm swinging a breeze comes

over the hill;

I guess he'll explain that—I know he

will—

He explains so much to me.

He knows just when my arms get

tired,

Though how I do not see;

Then the swing goes slow, and the

wind goes down,

The sea disappears and the meadows

brown—

And the wall—hides the trees—and the

distance town,

And the swing—stops—with—me.

—Caryl B. Storrs.

CRICKETS FOR PETS.

How You May Get One to Sing Upon

the Hearth.

We are accustomed to think of the

"cricket on the hearth" as something

very old-fashioned, belonging to the

days of grandmothers, powdered hair

and open fireplaces. Lacking the

hearth, the cricket does not visit us.

At this time of year the crickets,

hidden away under the edges of the

sidewalks and in the long grass that

grows up around country fences, are

playing the last tunes of the year. As

soon as the nights begin to get gen-

uinely frosty they will slip away into

some snug crack and sleep until next

spring—unless they can find a place in-

doors where there is a comfortable

hearth with plenty of convenient

cracks for hiding places; and they will

remain lively all winter and provide

the householders with musical selec-

tions every evening.

We can't all have a cheery cricket

on the hearth to bring luck to the

home where it stays, but any boy or

girl can have a cricket or two or three

of them in a box.

Go out some afternoon and catch a

few fat crickets, being careful not to

injure them. Prepare a home for them

by stripping the cover from a cigar

box and substituting in its place a

piece of open-meshed wire gauze. In

the bottom of the box a small quan-

tity of sand should be placed and sprink-

led over with a handful of grass. Two

or three chips, under which the crick-

ets may hide, will furnish the home

complete.

Put the little fiddlers in and you will

BATTLE ON STILTS.

Am Exciting and Novel Game Introduced

by Western Boys.

Several boys in Chicago improved

the last still season with an exciting

game on stilts which they called "stilt

fighting." Nearly every afternoon they

would gather in an open lot just south

of Washington park, and the still con-

tests attracted no little attention. Each

boy had a pair of stout stilts, with the

steps about eighteen inches above the

ground. Two of the boys were chosen

as leaders or captains and they picked

out their men, taking turns in making

the selections. Then the sides separate

and line up as in pull away or any of

the old games. At a word of command

from the umpire they advance on each

other, walking steadily on their stilts.

When they get close up together they

joists and push one another in the en-

deavor to throw the soldiers of the other

side from their stilts without tipping

over any of the soldiers on their own

side. The moment a man falls the um-

pire calls time, the man who is down

goes over to the side of the enemy, and

the battle begins over again. Some-

times a skillful stilt soldier will plunge

into the ranks of the enemy like a

mailed knight of old and tip over a

whole row of them without once losing

his balance. The game is never out

until every man is won over and lined

up on one side, and oftentimes when

only the general of an army is left he

can, by making a few bold strokes,

win back all his soldiers. This is what

makes the game particularly excit-

ing.

Several times the boys have brought

brooms along with them for arms, and

each of them, with a broom held fast

under his arm, charges down on the

enemy. In this warfare a soldier may

hit the enemy anywhere but in the

face or head, using his best efforts to

push him over. If a soldier drops his

broom he is "dead," or out of the fight.

This sport is even more exciting than

the ordinary battles, but it is hard on

the brooms.

Electricity Defied.

It is related of the deceased Italian

scientist, Galileo Ferraris, that in an-

swer to a young lady's request he in-

scribed in his album the following defi-

nition of electricity: "Since Maxwell

has demonstrated that the vibrations

of light might consist of periodical

changes of electro-magnetic forces, and

as Hertz has given Maxwell's theory

an experimental basis with his proof

of the similarity existing between elec-

tro-magnetic waves and light waves,

the belief becomes more and more

firmly established that this light-con-

veying ether and the medium in which

the electric and magnetic forces act are

identical.

"Therefore, I may well reply to the

question, Oh, studious and charming

maiden, 'What is electricity?' that it is

not only the fearful agent which at

times lights up the heavens suddenly

and startles thy soul with its loud

clapping of thunder, but also the life-

giving and life-awakening cause,

which as light and heat brings forth

the magic of color and breath of life,

which transmits to thy heart the pul-

sations of the universe and awakens in

thy soul the charm of glance and

smiles."

Hyenas Fought to the Death.

Kakim and Koker lived together in

amity for fourteen years. Then they

fell out on the question of food, and

now Koker is in the hospital and

Kakim ought to be there.

They are hyenas in the Philadelphia

Zoo. Hyenas are always hungry, so

those who make a study of the inter-

esting animals say. These, though

imported direct from Africa at a cost

of \$300 each, had all the hunger of

their kind, and the other morning

when Kakim managed to gulp his own

food down in amazingly short time,

he turned his attention to his comrade's

Then began a fight which is described

as the fiercest, loudest and most bloody

that the Zoo has ever seen.

The combatants were separated be-

fore they had quite killed each other,

but authorities on hyenas say that

they would resume it immediately were

they ever put together again.

From Corn Husks to Clothes.

Clothing made of corn husks attract-

ed so much attention at a fair recently

held in Atchison, Kas., that it is plan-

ned to have a similar exhibit at the

great fair to be held in Paris in 1900.

These costumes are so attractive,

many of them, that any girl might

well be proud to appear in one. Dresses

of the daintiest designs imaginable and

with any number of delicate frills and

foucences were shown. They proved ef-

fective that a new industry has

sprung up in Atchison. It is called

"corn millinery," and those who prac-

tice it make charming looking hats for

women and girls from corn husks. One

of the most successful corn milliners

recently sent a husk hat to the wife of

President McKinley.

DIOCESAN NEWS.

What Our Friends in the Surrounding

Parishes are Doing.

From Our Social Correspondents.

Elmira.

One of the most enjoyable entertainments

of the week was that given by the Young

Ladies' Society of St. Patrick's church at

St. James Hall Monday evening. A splen-

did programme was listened to by a large

audience. Those assisting were Miss Le-

slie Horgan, soprano; Martin L. Millan,

baritone; Judson H. Campbell, tenor; Miss

Josephine Lowman, soloist; Edward

Briggs and Miss Frances Fennell violoncello.

Following the programme dancing was in-

stigated in to the catchy music of the Mc-

Henry orchestra.

Miss Fanny Lynch went to Oswego Tues-

day to attend the Hardman-Leahy wedding

which occurred in that city Wednesday.