The second s

## THE.BOY · WHO ·

## A NEW ENGLAND TALE. By the Author of "Sundries."

HAD NO FRIENDS

Nor were events long in showing what had induced this anxiety of Henry Underwood to purchase. He had been first advised of a fact to which we have indistinctly alluded-to wit, that those who had developed in the **newspapers** the charms of Berrysville. could not so readily blow out the fire as they had supposed. Emigration pitched upon the tract as one highly favor- smiles of amusement. able,-examination verified as much of the praise of the now chagrined speculators as could reasonably be expected by any man accustomed to the tone of did grow rapidly in importance, in sp.te upon it, would have designated it as a barren tract. Settlements shoot up tally declare for drinks all around" "like winking" on eligible western sites. A preacher or two, and a doctor, were soon added to the little community, a "merchant," i. e. a western counterpart of Deacon Underwood followed, a "Hotel," astonished those who had been used to simple and distant "publics," and, as the acme of the bona fide growth of Berrysville into a town, the paddles of a steamer stirred the turbid waters of the Big Muddy!

Meanwhile the speculating clique through whose involuntary aid all this had been done, were preparing their operations to sap in the bud the upstart place which had dared to grow up in own site for the court-house, jail, gallows, upon occasion, and other proofs fited antagonist picked himself up. of civilization, at a point where they should be so far from benefiting Berwould throw the setiement back into primeval nothingness Here again the efforts of agent and of principals faitthey had been getting ready to lobby into existence the town of their second choice, the seeds sown in behall of their first love, had so luxuriantly vegetated that Berrysville achieved for itself, and in its foes' despite, the greatness which those foes, once friends, originally designated for it. Forthwith arose a of republican equality, and shortly forlowed the fail, and other circumstances appurtenant. Last, though not least, came the county newspaper, grandiloquently entitled The Berrysville Rethe practice of law in that and adjoining counties, in holding military land warrants; in ancollections in the eastern cities, and in others making the aggregate of large type specifications, some half dozen in number, that he could do all which to a limb of the law belongs and appertains. But alas! What Henry could do. was left to the sympathetic imaginations of himself and his friends. People had either no faith in his professions of ability, or such full confidence that they did not need to put him to the proof. He drove to be sure a considerable business in answering questions whether this bank or that was good, and whether an occasional note at which he was permitted to look (Ob Tantalus!) was a genuine emission. He was reputed also to know bogus from silver by the touch, and as he actually received an occasional newspaper "rom the East. people did him the favor to accept the loan of it. He was also sponged out of legal advice by supposed cases, upon which he must either pronounce, or lose his profitable reputation. All this, however, strange though it may seem, yielded very little profit; and as Henry had been known to smoke Spanish cigars upon his first coming into the settlement, and to indulge in other distant but dis-

tinued Jonce, speaking to the musical landlord, "trust a Yankee with that baby of yours once, and go be getting a drink ready, all round!" Harry hesitated-but catching a sly

wink of Jonce's eye, fell in with his humor, and the fiddle, as was unanifore been heard "in them diggings."

barefooted!"

"Stranger you can fiddle, but I al- happening to catch her reflection in a low I can throw you indian hug or mirror, she distinctly remembered that Hardscrabble? The Deacon honestly arm's length."

"Try it," sand Henry

length Henry danced at his tosses like why!

more yonder, and in."

ed; and it was discovered that while on the long run-the bounding activ- Meteor, announcing that Henry Un- prove upon acquaintance doth never, lengths ahead.

'Hurra! for the lawyer" And three one flesh. hearty cheers spoke Harry Underwood's first Berrysville triumph.

"Stranger- you are a screamer and no mistake. I could beat you on a fight--but I sentimentally allow I don't court-house, in the structure of which want to spoll your face for a jury, for all styles of architecture met, on terms you've got to do some law for me right off. You're a perfect steamboat, and in town, with a pocket full of rocks, and here." (handing half a dozen dollars) "is a handful of pebbles to beteor of the Western Hemisphere. And witnesses, throw his lawyer, and out- ness that he has made a good match stariling variations from the regular that the fates might so order it, as to foot, two and two, followed all the publican Banner, and Democratic Me- gin with. Just fiddle on t'other fellow's in that newspaper the world was ad- run, and outjump him, as you have me vised by way of advertisement, in in- and I shall be as good as new, and you definitely large type, that Henry I'n- will be the tallest lawyer on the Big Here followed Harry's first consultaanother place it was stated that he tion, with a real western client, giving would stiend to the business of those him a genuine retainer Working for his bread, with no father's chest to other that he could attend to making fall back upon, he soon realized the benefit of depending upon himself, and was not ashamed to admit that Jonce Smiley could give good counsel even to him. His violin, which had once been his bane, was now his best friend and advertisement. No party was complete unless Harry Underwood was along, and from no excursion in which he could participate was he left out.

bound to show these boys how Yankee new and flourishing town of Berrys-Doodle can be kicked out of this here ville. He read the arrival of steamsod, and you're bound to show them boats at Berrysville, and sighed that what amount of music can be coaxed none could ever come to Hardscrabble, out of that old fiddle. Colonel!" con- for the very sufficient reason that the only stream in town was out of business all the year except three weeks in the Spring, when by infinite labor it managed to drive a small--very small-grist mill.

father, Deacon Underwood considered thets. This, the strongest point in Mr. mously "allowed," talked "a lettle his son Henry as part and parcel of Smiley's claim on the suffrages of his freer" in his hands, than had ever be- the town in which he lived, and doubted not that to him was to be attributed Underwood, who found that he had at the rise of Berrysville. Nor was his own right arm and dexter hand, other last struck upon a "bar practice" which interest scarcely less in our old ac- items, of similar character though micould not pay less, while it might pay quaintance Jonce; but as Jonce's name | nor importance, were set up in a whole more, than any he had yet enjoyed, for- did not usually appear in the newspa- column. His moral virtues and politigot Chitty on Evidence for bow on fid-pers he could not consider the "boy dle. He ran from Yankee Doodle into who had no friends" as so prominent | single parenthetical sentence, sufficientsomething else, and Orpheus himself or important an individual as his own ly eulogistic, it is true, and the sum of never played to better purpose. All son, who published every week six ad- the whole was that Jonathan Smiley. Berrysville was alive and jigging, and vertisements, more or less -the printer Esq., was "The Man of the People." even the more sedate looked on with kindly putting them in to "fill up," af- Other candidates received their proper | ter their time had run out. But of this share of laudation, but inasmuch as

er!" should one of the boatmen- course know nothing. The letters of name) was the file, whose flight was to "Them's the scientific licks!" respond-"Henry, at first few, far-between and take along the whole ticket, it followed ed another, whose legs appeared to despondent, had, of late, particularly that all that was said in the praise of those who wish to sell; and Berrysville have declared for the most violent kind since the dance, wrestle, and run, as- the rest, was only as tending to show of agitation-"Whoop!" screamed a sumed a more cheerful character, and that they had sufficient merit to be of those who, having lost their hold third, "I give up! The Squire has fid- since that time too. Mr. Smiley was fre- named in the same day with Jonathan dled me down, and I must sentimen- quently mentioned in terms of friend- Smiley, Esq., of Berrysville, "born," "Mister Smiley," thought Mar- (as the French express it) that Jonce ship. 'That's the ticket! Stone fence, garet, when first she heard the name Smiley, of Hardscrabble, who had no as the Deacon read aloud But her eye friends!

Jonce had now grown big enough to rejoiced, almost as much as he would

the green sward. The sturdy boatman as she looked herself her reflection - most without exception, followed the could not get a hug, and at arm's in the face, she blushed I wonder Deacon's lead While there was more

equilibrium were fruitless. Cautiously look rather inquiringly at the hymeneal oblige the town to which that honor our hero played on the defensive till and obituary records in the Meleor, as belonged, to support him as a pauper, the boatman puffed like his own high. If she expected to find some men. on the fact that he was an undoubted pressure steamer. Then, by a dexter, there of him of whom she had now be- Hardscrabbler by birth, was not so ous feint, l'inderwood spread him our gun definitely to think She wondered much insisted on ;- now, all Hardscrabspite of them. They had prepared their on the grass, and bounding off, stood if he meant to get married, and then ble was particularly careful to remem with his arms folded while his discom- puzzled herself to guess if, by any ber that Jonathan Smiley. Esq, honorchance, he had, and then she thought ed the air of that ilk by inhaling it "Stranger! you've licked me fair on that if he had, Henry might have men. first into his infant lungs. it was that-and there's but one try more, tioned it At last Henry in his letters Hardscrabble air that he first exhaled rysville, that it was charitably hoped Here's run for the drinks-the Colonel began to speak obliquely about certain in those unintelligible, though enorand believed their united attraction gives the word--out to the big syca- changes as pending in his own case, mously uttered rudiments of the vernaand then he spoke directly of being cular, with which all children, in all One, two, three! The iron nerve of amanced, and about to wed Miss Rebers ages, have first saluted this fair world, the boatman would have endured best ca Berry and then flash' came the a world, which, however it may imity of Harry brought him in three full derwood, Esq. and Rebecca Herry of so far as all interpretation of their first Berrysville, were no more twain, but cries hath signified, strike children very

'he-votion!" exclaimed the Deacon. The Deacon posted away directly to who would have thought it? Wny, read the newspaper to Ma'am Smiley. 1 was in hopes, after all, Margaret, Feltiah Perkins, who had ungraciously that he would come home and marry enough listened, skulked away home, mere nonsense, as easily set aside, as a ne caught up his goad stick with an of 11"

The manner in which she said mig the butt of the stick he rapped their he thought of him In plain English his acquain ances, the latter including might have shown a curious observer faces till they winked again, and bow- Jonce would have gloried, just then, all the adult inhabitants of the place

geous and eternal forests, with his own in a few marked exceptions, the supsycamores, buttonwoods, and pawposition holds true. "All other things paws. Now though the reader may being equal," the great struggle is prinsuspect that the axe which Jonathan cipally to establish this man or the first wielded at the West was Berry's, other as "the best fellow." And to and not his own, still as the right arm was evidently his and none other's, the little inaccuracy may be winked at -- as With the very natural feeling of a may other somewhat questionable epifellow being established, namely, that when he chopped wood, he used his cal qualifications were disposed of in a ' Go it, stranger! You're a scream- newspaper secret the Deacon could of Jonce (we can't forget his familiar

And how fell the announcement on be a man and be called Mister, if he have done had the man so praised been In a moment all hands were out on ever meant to attain that age And his own son, and the other citizens, althan a probability that the settlement a bird, but all efforts to destroy his And after that, too, she began to of Jonce's birthplace might one day favorably at first sight

champion of the "people's friend." and not incur the slightest suspicion. talking. As Jonce reviewed his childhood he haved upon that occasion as though he

made him painfully troublesome, even scrabble memory.

feature of electioneering in this coun- and packets "by private hand." Jonaaxe-helve, in his own right hand, and try. In talent all the candidates are than withdrew into the forest with the hewed out his own fortune among the presumed to be upon a par, and, save precious token all worm-caten as it was in his bosom.

CHAPTER XII.

for

gra

sho

wa:

tho

terl

6661

tior

his

did

can

ing

war

that

chee

whi

evil

Jon:

coul

turn

hous

pari

caug

Witl

Dead

door

welc

sum: gare

cerei

fairl

one

grow

insta

tend

come

said

fore.

than

their

at th

comp

lectic

Hon.

mant

Prett

child

each

whet

anced

marr:

he w

to lis

those

in he

down

foolis

him!

first 1

come

and L

соп'в

and a

and n

a sum

to spe

ble he

row

a dez

could

Jonce.

COB. B

in asc

God.

early

ing ki

aside i

though

in Nev

are co

to ack

tion fc

casion

men co

the De

no rul

etiquet

ing up

Smiley

seen bi

upon h

— but A

nor wa

present

other u

have m

scrabb

other t

creatur

was a

was qu

sot." th

'go loc

long in

more. h

sion in

sun-bur

Gentlen

Etiquet

ficial la

him, in:

took th

nounced

emphasi

observei

thing fr

instance

ceal dee

servers

not at

fashione

of sight

under t

entirely

another

her kind

clusion

per "hel

interest

cept to

stocking

lage elif

selves fo

had hon

bridge of

ence of

Marga

But a

Huri

And

wond

Αn

B

Margaret Smith or as she was more the securing of this character for Jonce usually termed the Deacon's Margaret, his large acquaintance contributed or Margaret Underwood, had now much, and the efforts of Henry l'nder. reached the peculiar age, when people wood who "stumped" vigorously in his thought more for her, than she thought behalf, contributed more. Henry had for herself, as to whom, if anybody, had a surfeit of ambirion in his mili- she would ever marry. She showed tary and other expensive youthful hon- such perfect content in her singleors, and had no desire to throw away blessedness, and appeared so entirely certainties in a political lottery. He happy as the Deacon's household felt under no small obligation to his prime-minister, that all the younger friend, and was anxious so to acquit portion of the community-(and what himself as to repay the service which a set of young ones had grown up, since the hardy woodsman had done him. Our story opened!)-considered her out It was for such reasons that, when he of the marriage list, unless some old might have fiddled himself into the widower should pick her up, to keep seat in Congress, he preferred to aid his household in order. As they deemto send Jonathan Smiley there-and ed her no more to be counted or Jonathan, it must be acknowledged, thought of as a rival for young folks, was nothing loth. Had the two friends she was a universal favorite, and like een opposing candidates there can be all good-natured old maids, had a larlittle doubt that the result would have ger circle of temals friends than any been the same to Jonce, while l'nder- other woman in town. Nor did the wood, in addition to the loss of his elec- young men leave her out of their visittion, would have failen short of the ing lists--for she was one with whom increase of patronage acquired as the they could chat agreeably for an hour,

Triumphant was Berrysville when Not a dream of jealousy, though a the confidently anticipated result was young man were in the very most perdeclared officially. The only man who ilous point of his passage down the showed no elation was the successful course of true love, would he awaken candidate-he felt too much to trust in the breast of an adored, the most himself with the utterance He knew suspicious, by being kind and attentive all his victory-no one else did. He to our Margaret. She was in truth could look back to the time when he considered as out of the question when was not permitted to speak of himself marriage was talked of, and her unias having any claim on the present - to versal popularity was not a little alded say nothing of the future when tyrant by the fact that at the date of this contempt would have hooted him if he chapter she stood in nobody's way. The had been suspected of thinking him- unsuccessful essay of Peltiah Perkins's self worthy of the trust of leading a son John was the last attempt made horse to water, and when the ready to win Margaret, and she was tactily and impatient trust put him suddenly thenceforward consigned to the wrong aside, if he ventured to intrude where side of the marriage list, as above set boys even, to say nothing of men, were forth and described. And although John, as the reader may remember, be-

thought of his mother with feelings fancied she might have some latent softened by time and improved by dis- kindness for our hero Jonce, as she. cretion, and his heart now yearned in her cavalier dismissal of him beloward her if not with an earnest af- trayed or avowed no friendship for anfection, at least with dutiful senti- other, the recollection of the early ments He could now estimate and friendship of Margaret and of Jonce weigh all the circumstances which had passed entirely from the Hard-

to an only parent, and when he recol- Peltiah Perkins died and was buried. lected how busy, how maliciously busy Many were the virtues which were diswas gossip in misrepresenting him to covered in the character of the deher in his childhood, he no longer funct, after he had ceased to be and wondered that she was harsh to him, long was the procession, fill on foot. but he did wonder that she tolerated which followed Peltiah, facher of the him at all. He thought of the Deacon town, as he had been considered, unyou, and settle down in the old place saving 'nothing to nobody'' Peltian as one who went through the form, der the Deacon, to his last earthly here" And this he said in perfect hin- Perkins's son John had left a yoke of and who supposed that he went resting-place. According to the good cerity for like most old people, the cattle at the door, while he went in through the fact of an examination be- old custom. Peltiah's remains were Deacon had a habit of thinking all that for his Santy Crooce, and to herr fore he condemned. He thought of borne upon the shoulders of eight of can shine in any crowd you like i'm younger people say of getting married the news. As he passed the threshold, Peltiah Perkins, and a smile of loath- those nearest his age, of sufficient ing contempt crossed his face--he re- strength to support the burden, four man can give up one house for another, air not to be misunderstood, and play- membered the son John, (the truth bearing the body, and the others walk-when assured it is a better one. But," ed such a punchamarra upon the flanks must be acknowledged) the Member of ing beside it, ready to relieve their continued he. "I can only hope to good- of his luckless oxen, and with such Congress elect did wish most hearing friends at stated intervals. Then on ox goad gamut, that the poor creatures give him a chance to intimate strik- town, the immediate relatives of the "I hope so, I am sure" said Margaret were utterly nonplussed. Then with ingly to that gentleman precisely what deceased first- then his friends-then th which he was born, had lived, and died. Not a few children were in the solemn train; for in New England the child is early taught that it is better to go to the house of mourning than to the house of feasting. No studied funeral pomp - no mocking pageantry of woe-no mercenary adjuncts and acridents of mourning added to the solempity of the scene or could such vanity, had it been present, have increased the effect. It must rather have destroyed or diminished it. When one in the village dies, men say "It is one of us-let us all attend him to his long home," and all who can, do thus honor the dead, for they miss his step from among them. When one in a city dies. the busy worldlings say-"It is a man dead, let us pay those whose trade it broad flapped coat its sex also, and the is to do him honor;" and the overfed Deacon entered as the Deacon, but to sleek black horses, prance up till within a door of the house, their black plumes shaking giddily like so many dancing deaths. Restively pawing, as with difficulty checked down to funeral pace and then to a funeral stop before the door, the horses wait impatiently for their load of mortality; and in a gait restrained, with frequent efforts to break into a trot, they bear the dead to the tomb; and then, the ungracious task once performed, the coach of the dead. and the coaches of the living hurry away; with no farther effort to remember the duty which summoned them forth. As Deacon Inderwood bared his head at the entrance of the graveyard while the body of his friend passed in. he noticed that he was joined by a stranger-a stranger evidently, or he would have been one of the procession. The Deacon did not look up to the newcomer's face, for, as that reverent cortege entered the home of the dead, all eyes were fixed upon the earth. The body was committed to the ground; the procession wound around the grave. and moved out of the yard, each eye, as the narrow pit was passed, being strained to catch a last look, at the wood which concealed all that remained of Peltiah Perkins. The stranger was much moved-and when all had passed out, remounted his horse, which had been hitched at the gate, and dusty and travel-worn, Jonathan Smiley, for he it was, followed the funeral procession home. As couple after couple of the acquaintances of the deceased turned aside to seek their homes many a curious eye was turned scanningly upon the stranger-but none knew him. The despised boy could not be recognised in that stalwart and manly form; nor could those who caught a nearer glimpse remember the downcast and sheepish eyes of poor Jonce in the steady and manly look of Jonathan Smiley. Divers and curious were the speculations as to whom and what this traveled apparition could be and could mean, by starting up just then and just there; and the family record of the Perkinses was canvassed, to find out what distant relation, having forgotten Peltiah alive, had come to claim consanguinity with the dead man's estate. Even John Perkins, dutiful son as he was. let his father's memory fade, to trace in his own the family tree, and discover, if possible, what distant branch of it had now appeared, to cry "shares!" in the division. Jonathan Smiley more sincerely mourned than any other-for, remembering Peltiah with more unkindness, perhaps, than any other human being, he was

was counted, what is expressively term- rage, he trampled down her rose-bushes ed "stuck up"-as hard a character for man in certain situations to prosper under, as it is for a dog to thrive with the reputation of the rabies upon him.

His old friends, Berry and Smiley, were all this time going along swimmingly. Uncle Sam's commission as master, he had the reading of all the postmaster, and the governor's as jus- news which came to town. The abtice and as commissioner of deeds were sence of his boy had seemed to give held by them, and poor Underwood felt more and more acutely how "circumstances alter cases." He was just thinking of abdicating forever the place which seemed to him so utterly unpropitious, when his attention was one interested in Western matters, and, his afternoon called to a knot of boisterous woodmen relaxing their "ponderous" strength" at the door of the "Hotel" opposite, or rather permitting it all to find exercise in their heels and arms. for they were dancing all over, to the rists may say what they please about music of the ancient fiddle of mine bonds of union holding the confederacy most. Henry eyed the rattle-brained together; there exist no stronger than party with a feeling of disgust, of which he longed to make them sensible. ity, which unite the distant points from He saw Jonce join the group, and ac- which the thoughts of friend and tually look on with evident amusement, friend, parent and child, and brother and for the hundredth time he almost and sister stray to meet each other. cursed "the lucky scapegrace, as he deemed him, who against all obstacles the Deacon was also in the regular had thriven, while he, despite all fav- receipt from Henry, of the Berrysville oring circumstances, had moved no Republican Banner, and Democratic step, except in retrograde.

"Hullos, Squire!" shouted Jonce, "spose you come out and join!"

tion, And then his dignity! But nev. these the dear good old gentleman conon their amusement.

CHAPTER X.

Peltian Perkins's son John had survived his dismissal by Margaret as indeed men usually do who pay court rather to supposed wealth than to mind or person. And as Deacon Abijah Underwood, thanks to an active life, a clean conscience, and a benevolent Meart, bade fair to live another lifetime yet, John had even found reason to congratulate himself that he did not marry the deceitful little hussy." Nordid he scruple to express that thankfulness, as though the sundering of the match, if match it could be called, had been his work and not hers. As to Margaret, she never troubled herself to think of him, except when she saw him, and then, kindhearted as she was, i if nothing had happened, and nothing at the grotesque figure the discarded

tinctly remembered extravagances, he suitor presented, when in his impotent by moonlight.

The Deacon, since his wife died, and since Henry had left him, to do, he trusted, wonders in the West, had actually subscribed for a newspaper-for himself, notwithstanding that, as posthim a stake in the whole country; for his interest was no longer entirely limited to Hardscrabble, and parts adjacent. Of course, as Henry was now a Western man, the father had become eyes once opened to the West, the charmed circle which once shut out all beyond his valley from his vision was broken, and he looked, once in a while toward the South also. Political theothe ties of friendship and consanguin-

And, beside the paper from Boston. Meteor of the Western Hemisphere. If this hebdomadal did not contain more

news than the city papers, it could Here was a dilemma. To refuse beat any six of them in name, and give would be to do himself no good cer- them odds. The most interesting items taining to comply was no less disagree. to the father were the son's six adverable than to swallow a nauseous po- tisements, more or less, and from ertheless, his last ten dollars was in cluded that Henry must be doing an press of a wasting consumption, immense business in Berrysville. He and listessly unwillingly he stalked read with infinite interest the flaming across the road lie was met by any-paragraphs shout the new court-house thing but donks of velcome and the and new jail, and other public buildings company seemed to teel no particular until he caught himself looking at the cratitude to Jonce for inviting him plan of Solomon's Temple, which hang the great work of the wise king ex-

that she was heart-whole in that par- ed and backed in pain and terror [alticular direction, but the Deacon was belt well used" to the ordinary treat- soundly. not curious in any thing but horses ment of which this was only an extra . But, inquires the reader, isn't it very flesh if any body could have read the specimen. His discordant shouts "Gee, strange that, all this time, he did not girl's thoughts, he would have sten Buck' Gee. Star' Who' Gee! Haw's think of Margaret, the faithful Margathat, though perhaps Margaret hersel' delivered in utter disregard of anything ret. in his joy? If he had not it would did not exactly know it, and certainly but noise, made the case with the un- indeed have been strange-and his would not acknowledge it, she was half lucky yoke but confusion worse con- thoughts did wander to her continually, trembling to think how nearly the bolt founded. had fallen to Jonce without striking. Margaret, from her window, had seen as the newspaper say, to give her a him! We have said in a preceding the Deacon start off with the paper in "separate paragraph" When he recchapter, that she but remembered lonce his hand- she now saw and heard her ollected that his mother was a mother as a boy, but we have also said in this quondam suitor's ungracious braying, after all, and as kind as the officious that her own maturity had reminded and she did not need to read the Dem- malice of her neighbors would permit her that he was a boy no lorger. Mer- ocratic Meteor to know that it had her to be her face seemed to change cantile phrase is awkward in love rela- prought good news from Jonce. The in his waking dream to that of Martions, but we can, perhaps, word the behavior of John could be the commen- garet. As the Deacon passed the field precise state of things no better than tary on nothing else.

to say that she hold herself subjecto his refusal"-or that he "had the refusal of her."

Wonderful was the gosaip in Hardscrabble, when the news got abread that Henry Underwood had "got married off there." Not a few of the citizens of that ancient town were like had conferred upon him -the honor of the old lady, who when she heard of representing them in the Congress of a distant place, wondered "how people the United States And twenty years could live so far off!" and heretore was in the history of this country is equivathe marriage of the Deacon's son con- lent to a century in almost any other, sidered so miraculous an event that many people were actually astonished on the next Sabbath, to find the Deacon and his ward walking to meeting, as she could not avoid an internal laugh; remarkable had been heard of during and importance, which no youth or the week. John Perkins "humphed."

And beside this stifled at anito. tion, where almost everything is exwhich might mean something or nothperimental, youth, with its bounding ing, he indulged farther in the remark hopes, its restless activity, its au-"that he guessed some folks, who exdacious contempt of usages, dogmas, pected something, would find now that theories, and other old world trammels everything did not always come out in all things just exactly where they is the admired and influential period of man's life. In other words, it seems 'lotted upon it." This oracular giving out was supposed to have some refer- as if Americans, particularly in the ence to Margaret, Henry, and the Dea. newer states, take life as they do their con's estate. Upon another branch of food, as a thing to be gobbled down as his guesses Peltiah's son John was fast as possible. And though bolting more explicit. "It will be as much as at table is pretty sure to inflict the pena week," said he, "before anybody alties of indigestion, it is on the other hears anything good of that Jonce hand a security against drony table ex-Smiley, who had to run away from ercise, systematic gormandizing, un-Hardscrabble."

John was a prophet. In fust a week makes the dinner-idolater as inefficient mice, till ready to fall into dust, therefrom the utterance of that Orphic say- as a stuffed goose, or a crammed turing touching the hearing of anything key. So in political matters, the young when its enclosure embraced something good from that Jonce, the maltreated states and communities which, in their worth the attention of those quadruped and despised of Hardscrabble, the Ber- juvenile political hey-dey, prepare inrysville Republican Banner and Demo- digestible political doses, can be easily cratic Meteor of the Western Hemis- put them off as put them on; and suffer phere came to Hardscrabble with an infinitely less than older communities, by the industry of explorers, and its item of announcement indeed. It which patiently endure burdens and ex- | leather covers laid out into maps by startled the dwellers in that ancient actions almost insufferable, enduring the routes of industrious book-worms township more from their propriety them for the simple reason that they of the literal class. On the fly leaf and how should they recollect him? than had any previous event since Pel- are old! Both states of society have tiah Perkins's corn barn was struck their disadvantages.

passim) not burned like an ordinary if we are allowed to predicate an opin- would never choose to send abroad with piece of fuel, but "totally consumed." This startler was no less than the po- esting the reader. Certainly it is dul- by which a maid of New England sition of the name of Esq., ventured to say while he was JONATHAN SMILEY, Esq., of Berrys-

ville. at the head of the true blue ticket for those whom he hoped were to be his Congress! Then followed a leader, constituents. Of quick natural parts, ter he had for a few moments dwelt which led with the question "Who is sound judgment, great practical good upon it in his thoughts. "Why, Jona-Jonathan Smiley?"

for no other purpose, (as was probably, legislative promotion, it was because handed it to me!" the fact,) than to have an opportunity to make its own reply. The paper said, ted; and to make that capacity avail- not have remembered a cifcumstance and the Descon read aloud, that Jona- able to his country, it only needed that which he had forgotten for twenty than Smiley was a man who had enter- he should secure the personal prefer- years. But it was only after all a spec-

though not with sufficient distinctness.

of his mental telescope, his round fat face changed its age and sex, and his

CHAPTER XL The progress of this story must be

go out as the Deacon's ward, Jonasupposed to have gone through nearly than's youthful angel. twenty years, else would not our friend He sighed. The vision seefled too Jonce be eligible to the gift which the impalpable for him 'o grasp--a glimpse people of his Congressional District of impossible joy too heavenly for him to realize. His thoughts next pursued the theme, with manner of man her husband might be, and he wondered if her children had any defenders against the cruelty of such as Peltiah-or, and so rapidly has the forest been redeemhe shuddered, if she might not herself ed, and the ground applied to the supbe the wife courtesy-termed, the slave port of thousands. In old countries, in fact, of some libel on human nature. where precedents are the guides and Was she still living, or had she gone rules of action, old age confers position nn early to the grave, under the thraidom of the thankless artificial life middle age may attain. In a new na-

which he had been so fortunate in escaping? The marriage of Harry Underwood had caused a disturbance of some longdormant movables in the household of Mr. Berry. To fit out the cabin of the newly-married temporarily, at least, with what movables could be spared, the stow-holes were industriously rummaged, and nook and cranny gave up their long-undisturbed items. In this general dragging out, a solled and dusty package fell under Jonathan's hand, the inclination to open which he could not resist-though all else passed it without notice. It was a child's healthy obesity, and that sloth which handkerchief-gnawed by the rats and by bearing record that time had been, investigators. The shreds of cloth removed, what had been once a book appeared, its leaves loosened at the back' was written her name-beneath it she had traced his. It was a copy of that by lightning, and (vide newspapers | But this is not telling our story-and book which a mother of New England

ion upon a yawn, it is not much inter- her child as his counsellor; that book ler than anything Jonathan Smiley, would ever be remembered by her absent friend. Jonathan opened and "stumping it" to secure the votes of showed it to Berry.

"This beats me," said the latter. afsense, and by no means inefficient gen- than, the very morning that I came "Sure enough," muttered Peltiah, and 'eral education, he was not at all un- away from Hardscrabble, with your grunted his son-but the Meteor, far worthy of the trust which he solicited; mother and Deacon Underwood-there from indulging in any such sneering and if in electioneering his friends put was a little girl ran up, and put this echo to its question, proceeded to ans- his claims, as we have seen, upon book in my hand. I never should have wer it as if it had put its own query grounds not precisely entitling him to thought of it again if you had not

his capacity was presumed and admit- | It is to be presumed that Berry might and the buildings of the ed the primeval shades of the umbra- ence of those who make legislators. | imen slightly exaggerated of the speed And this, by the way, is an universal and certainty of the delivery of letters

they also she was and did even hin anomaly. of the H whom th below th her old c There 1 ing, and 1 Jonathan to go ho Smiley " "I decla familiar : Mr. Smile should di a home, a care of h On the headed pa toriness o the meeti in whispe which we Ally sedal



Company Sec. Sec.