I love the good old Earth,

Oh, Earth! A tender mother

Keeps sighing for to go

You've been to me and mine. I'm blest with friend and brok ber. With mest and bread and wine I will not say I'm yearning To try another sphere:

Such gracious things your goodness brings I love to linger here. My neighbor Deacon Watkins.

Cross Jordan's strand to that fair land Where healing waters flow. But just the other day he ate Some truck that made him stok And he told his folks to rush and get The doctor, double-quick -Nixon Waterman

A COWBOY VIRTUOSO.

The persistence of Mr. Rime Jenks at length received its due reward-he was asked to fiddle for a dance.

You may remember that this gentleman, who was second to none when it came to close quarters in the branding-pen, or following a wild calf through the sage-bush, had not one ounce of musical capacity in the hundred and sixty-odd pounds of his makeup, yet had a particular ambition and an unflagging zeal to become a fiddler. The object of this writing is to show that he received ample returns upon the zeal invested, but never attained to the ambition.

For so many years that the memory of man runneth not to the contrary, he had packed a violin in his bed-roll on the annual round-up, and at every opportunity, when the day's work was done, he rosined his bow. Throughout the winter months, when work was light and evenings long, he had practiced faithfully, if not intelligently, in the bunk-house until banished by a plebiscite to a near-by dug-out, where he found sacks of onions and bins of potatoes more patient sufferers than the general sitting-room afforded. In some former year the outfit had boasted a man who could "play any instrument," and Jenks, seeing how easy it was, decided to become equally accomplished. The violin was not his first choice, but his first opportunity, and, having accepted it, his code of ethics bound him to break the critter or break the cinch.

On the twenty-ninth of February there was a leap-year dance at Richmond's. This place was on a hill in. the border-land between the open range and the settlements, and however much cowboys might despise farmers, and farmers detest cowboys, the social amenities were rarely disturbed. and the country dance was a popular institution. My friend Rice voiced the general sentiment thus. "I like 'em because everybody is a-le'ping and a gits up again." The plain inference from Mr. Rice's statement is that at dred Dollars."-Argonaut. any other than a country dance if one falls down he stays down-which might embarrass and endanger his betters. When I called Rice's attention to this, he explained that he meant "in your mind." "It's like getting on to a bucking horse any morning after tighten your cinch another hole and climb on again. But suppose you are doing some fancy riding or roping at the county fair, and your saddle gets emptied, why, you feel so low down you don't get over it for a week."

Our boys all went over to the dance bright-eyed young woman, who asked if he had brought his violin.

"No, I did not," replied the startled piece of rosin which he produced from a pocket; "but if you want to use it, I'll be very glad to go back to the ranch and fetch it. It is only about twenty miles." "I was told," said the girl, just

slightly showing several white teeth. "that you carry your violin with you wherever you go, and I'm sorry to find that it's not true. Our music has disappointed us: the house is full of people, and nobody here to play for them bu a 'cello and a mouth-organ. But I think we can get a violin within less than twenty miles, and"-here she showed him the full set-"will you kindly play for us until Mr. Smith arrives?

"Miss, I should be delighted—" said Jenks. "Oh, thank you so much-" interpos-

ed the girl.

"If I knew how," he continued, "but I don't. You see, I'm only learning. I can just start a few."

"Oh, I am sure you will do it well." she replied; "and I will go right out and send for an instrument: " and she hurried away.

Mr. Jenks was astonished and perplexed. Of course he had hoped to play in public at some time, but this was so sudden. He was not in a hurry. Some other leap year would be soon enough.

Should he bolt, or face his own mu-"What a very pretty girl when she laughs," thought he; "I'll stay. Wish I had practiced more. Wonder of I'll break up the party."

In what seemed to him an incredibly short time in which to summon a flddle from the adjacent valley, the girl reappeared with one in her hand, and escorted the reluctant and protesting Jenks to the head of the room, introducing him to the 'cello, the mouth-

organ, and the floor manager. "Now, boys," said he, when the committee had turned away, leaving him with his fellow-musicians, who regarded him doubtfully, "let's have an understanding. I ain't in this like you for a dollar a head and free drinks, but I'm doing it to oblige a lady. I expect to make some pretty bad breaks, and the first one of you that snickers will eat his instrument right here. Are you

ready ?" Jenks is not afraid of any individual man, perhaps not very much afraid of any woman, but when he stood up on that platform with the flddle in his neck and faced the crowd, he was bad-

ly rattled. "Play a walts dirst." said the floor

The state of the s

manager "and play slow) a With a night of relief and a though of White I do when they demand fast music? Mr. Janks began that classical strain which fits the words "Where, oh, where is my little dog gone," the 'cello and mouthorgan struck in, the girls chose the best waitzers, the floor filled up, feet shuffled, boards creaked, and

the ball was opened. Accomplished speakers have recorded the difficulty experienced in learning to think upon their feet, but Jenks, facing an audience for the first time, and sawing away desperately at the first bars and repeat of a slow waltz, had no such trouble. He told me afterwards that his thoughts "thunk themselves and came a-running," and that he was congcious of three distinct is too hot, and so the application of trains of thought running on parallel tracks. The first concerned Mr. Smith. the delinquent musician; the second subject was "what a very pretty girl when she laughs:" and the third, accented to waitz-time, ran: "Oh. I never can play them that second strain, I know I'll break down if I try."

To anticipate difficulty is to insure it. After repeating the first strain some twenty times. Jenks made a desperate effort to strike the second movement, failed, and collapsed. The 'cello and mouth-organ hammered along uncertainly for a time and ceased. The stranded waitzers dotted the floor like boats becalmed on a miniature lake.

The waltzers had been so engrossed in their own efforts, and the rest of us in loobing on, that the quality of the music had apparently received little attention. When the player broke down, there was only a general movement of impatience at the interruption, and I looked to see the persistent Jenks start up again on the same eight girl at whose request he had made the

"Don't you think," he asked, "that I have proved that I cannot play?" "Well it does come pretty close to a thank you very much for helping us

relieve you." Jenks took the girl's hand for the first dance, and perhaps for others, and the

evening was a success.

Many hours afterward, as we rode morning, Jenks said to me, "What a very pretty girl when she laughs." "What did she say about your play-

ing." I asked.

years to practice." "Did you promise?" "I promised not to, told her I had Rime Jenks is a rather taciturn fel-

something better to work for now" low and I am not in his confidence. but I know that he goes pretty often to Richmond's Hill, and he has traded his fiddle for a cow. I have also noskipping, and if anybody fans down he ticed him studying a book entitled "Comfortable Cottages for Six Hun-

Do you realize there was once a time when the ocean, although not fresh. was merely brackish, and not all as it is now. This was when the thirth was in its first youth, and before there was breakfast and being dumped," said he. any land showing at all, or any animal "You don't mind it much, but just life in the water. At this time the water was gradually cooling from its original state of steam, and the salts were slowly undergoing the change from gases into solids. Then came the appearance of land, and later on rivers, which gradually washed down more and more salts, whilst at the botat Richmond's, and some one evident- tom of the ocean itself chemical action ly told the committee that Mr. Jenks was constantly adding more brine to was a competent fiddler, for soon after the waters. At present it is estimated his arrival he was approached by a there are in the world's oceans seven million cubic miles of salt, and the most astonishing thing about it is that, if all this salt could be taken out Jenks, nervously fingering a large in a moment, the level of the water would not drop one single inch.

> la This True. The Buffalo Express says: "It is true in some quarters that the continual display of the American flag on schoolhouses and other public buildings has had an effect exactly the reverse of that hoped for. The intent was to make children love the flag more, to increase their patriotism. in certain school districts of Buffalo. where faded, tattered flags fly, the children appear to have less respect for

> their nation's emblem than ever before,

'Familiarity breeds contempt.'"

A Nest Egg. A little doy and his sister were allowed to collect eggs from the hen coops, but were told that they must never take away the nest egg. The little giri, however, did so one morning by mistake, and her brother told her she must take it right back, "because that was what the old hen measured by."-Philadelphia Times.

Suggestion Not Heeded.

A suggestion was made by some one to the San Francisco papers, that dur- & ing the meeting of the Endeavor Convention they decline to make crime. scandal, outrage, deceit and stories of the prison and the gallows the leading articles in their columns. It does not appear that the suggestion has been heeded much.

Purifying the Blood.

The Herald of Health, in answer to the query, "What is the best mode of purifying the blood and invigorating the system?" says: "Breathe large quantities of pure air, produce a free perspiration from the entire surface of the body, either by exercise, or the vapor or hot-air bath, or wet-sheet

One of the annoyed remarks: "I have often observed at public entertainments that when there is anything to be seen, and everybody wants particularly to see it, everybody immediately stands up, and effectually prevents anybody from seeing anything."

The Art Preservative. "May I print a kiss on your cheek?" I asked.

She nodded her sweet permission; So we went to press, and I rather guess I printed a large edition. asphyziated by gas in a Westchester

Allowed to Pall Chair a Very Met Sartu Assumed the Spherolds! States

Probably every boy or girl has at some time men a laundress at work and has noticed her peculiar method of testing the condition of her iron by applying a wet finger to it. If the moist speci instantly vanishes with a hissing noise, the implement is fit for use: if there is no himing, and the drop of water evenorates slowly, the iron is relected. This may occur when the iron is too cool, but in this case there is no need of the test, as a second's use of the iron would prove its unfitness. But the same thing happens when the iron this simple test produces a great economy in the matter of scorohed tinen.

Those scientific men who are fond of using hard words, say that a drop of water allowed to fall upon a very hot surface assumes the spheroidal state, which means that it retains its spheroidal or drop-like form, instead of spreading and almost tustantly passing off in a cloud of steam, as it would do if the surface were cooler. The water certainly sucers no change of state or condition, and differs in no respect from any other water of the same temerature.

The drop of water on the hot plate performs some very curious evolutions, running about in an erratic manher and spinning rapidly like a top. It does not wet the plate, and hence

does not appear to be in contact with it. There really is no contact, as may be proved very simply in two ways: If one pole of a galvanic battery is

connected with the plate (a metal plate necessary for this experiment measures. But he had entirely recov- though the "spheroidal state" may be ered his self-possession. Laying the produced upon any smooth surface). fiddle aside, he advanced to meet the land a fine wire, connected with the other pole, is inserted into the drop of water without touching the plate, the electric circuit is incomplete, and ar electric bell included in the circuit remains silent. If the plate is then aldemonstration," she answered; "but I lowed to cool, when it reaches a certain temperature, the drop flattens, spreads out. Mr. Smith has come, and will out, and vanishes with a hise, and at the some instant the electric bell pro- a squirrel with a rat's tall and a rabbit So Mr. Smith took the fiddle and claims that the circuit has been mementarily completed by the contact of the water with the plate.

Or if a lighted candle is placed behind the drop, a band of light is seen sleepily homeward in the gray light of between the drop and the plate, showing that they are not in contact. The drop is apparently supported in mid-

In fact, the space between the drop Said that I must play at the next and the plate is filled with the vapor leap year dance; 1900 is not a leap of water which is constantly formed year, you know-would give me eight from the surface of the drop under the influence of the intense heat radiated from the hot plate.

It is the pressure due to the rapid outrush of this vapor that keeps the drop suspended without visible sup-

Again. as the vapor does not come with perfect uniformity from all parts of the drop, the jets of vapor sent out and which grow by the sea or near placing a sheet of aspectos between two from different points give rise to the tome awampy place. I have known of a layers of board, More interesting, curious and irregular spinning and rolling motions already described.

It will naturally be asked why eter, plunged into the drop, answers the question, for it tells us that the emperature of the water is much below the boiling point. The heat radiated from the hot plate appears to be used plumage flit from tree to tree. up in causing rapid evaporaton from the under surface of the drop, and, as the vapor lifts the drop away from the plate, no heat is directly conducted to the water from the latter. But as the plate cools and the rush of vapor diminishes, the drop comes into contact with the plate, is at once heated throughout and almost instantly boils

iway. These phenomena are not peculiar to water. Similar experments may be performed with other volatile liquids, ind some of the results are very asconishing when a liquid of low boiling point is used. Such a liquid is sulphurous acid, which boils at about 14 degrees Fahrenheit.

s poured into a red-hot dish, it is kept from contact with the dish by its own vapor, and remains so cold that drops of water allowed to fall into it are frozen. By using nitrous oxide, which is a gas at all ordinary temperatures and only liquid when cooled far below zero, even mercury can be frozen in a redhot vessei.

I have said that the hot surface need not be of any particular material, provided it is quite smooth. Even a perforated surface, or one made of wire may be used, as the liquid. in the 'spheroidal state," refuses to pass through small orifices.

Similar experiments have also been performed with liquid surfaces. In connection with this subject, another surious experiment may be noticed. It is well known that the human hand, if well moistened, may be plunged for a short time in melted lead without injury. The explanation is simply that contact between the metal and the hand is prevented by the vapor which is formed on the moist surface of the later.—Lawrence B. Fletcher. Ph. D.

A Constant Enemy.

Above all things, be on your guard against your temper. It is an enemy that will accompany you everywhere. to the last hour of your life. If you listen to it, it will frustrate all your lesigns. It will make you lose the most important opportunities and will inspire you with inclinations and aversions, to the prejudice of your greatest

interests. Temper causes the greatest

affairs to be decided by the most paltry

reasons. It obscures every talent, par-

alyzes every energy and renders its

victims unequal, weak, vile and insup-

portable. Imitating Songs of Birds. According to La Nature, with any glass tube whatever it is possible to easily reproduce the song of a bird. It suffices to rub the tube lengthwise with a piece of wet cork. 'In order to imitate the song of a bird, the cork must be moved with a varying rapidity, now slowly, now rapidly, and abrupt stoppages must intervene. The experiment

The Roughest Seas. The China Sea and the Bay of Funda

can be made more simply by rubbing

Media ni ide a solici e masi

THEY WILL FIND A PARADISE IN

Wild drawn and Fish of All Kinds for Great Abundance to be Found There -Wild Bear Plentiful and Sometimes

the invailed, it is a paradise for the seeined shape and colored to wall the kinds being abundant.

Parties of gentlemen on horseback, with their packs of hounds, hunt the fleet-footed deer. When they arrive in the locality which the game frequents, the hunters, as with us, station themlikely to mass and the dogs are turned of rest. For obvious reasons they are loose. It is a common thing for a small not made transparent.... party to kill eight or ten deer in a day. When night falls and the men are their trophies of the day's sport, they spend the evening with pipes and tales: at the campare, later to swing their hammocks from the neighboring boughs, and, free from care and troubles and amidst the moonlight and shadows and scent of luxuriant flowers. to sleep that sleep which gives health and life.

The wild bear is plentiful, and sometimes il cornered, dangerous, especially the old master of the herd called "unsolitaris," which will tear a dog to pieces or make a green hunter climb a tree, but a Cuban kills him with a machete. The island boar sometimes weigh 200 or 200 pounds, and has huge of plano playing meighbors. tucks, after five or six inches in length. The most of the female is much relished by the matives. Wild dogs and cats. wild cattle, horses and jackasses. abound. But the jutic, peculiar only in Cuba, which looks like a cross between and which lives in the trees and feeds on nuts and leaves, is the great delight aton of sound or heat. Not one of the of the Cuban.

flocks of from 25 to 100. The whistle of houses. He would have the have of the quail and the flutter of the pheasant and perdiz are heard on all of the walls, fastening them together sides in the rural and mountain refrom Florida in the Winter and return jus who has devised a process for make bird, offer, in hunting, the greatest there vitriol and soluble glass. When sport to gentlemen who will be restrained within season. In the early infringement, you may adopt the idea feed on the mangle berries when ripe, of a way of making doors firebroof by party of three persons to kill 1.500 of however, is a patent newly granted to the pigeons within a few hours, a person named Plekering of Richfound in the thick woods.

Mocking and blue birds, orloles, turpials, negritos, parrots and a thousand kind of songsters and birds of brilliant

The waters about Cuba, at night strangely phosphorescent, are marvelous in their transparency. Objects can be seen at a depth of 80 or 90 feet, and the endless variety of botanical and animal life in the depths afford great pleasure for those who love the realm of nature's mysterious lore. Brown make their home in the walls of dwelland numberless shells, with fish whose everywhere; but the style of house the bright colors emulating the tints of ferred to has walls divided into comprecious stones and the hues of the partments by partitions that are sealed combine to form a most enchanting sorts are prevented from getting about iquarium of nature.

The naturalist, Poey, says there are If a small quantity of this substance 641 distinct species of fish in the Cubern waters. Among those that delight the States for 1896, according to compile sportsman are the red snapper, lista, manta, gallego, cubera, surela and gar lain of the United States Geological fish. The sierra, which weighs from Survey, amounted to 190,639,953 short 10 to 60 pounds, is extremely game, as tons (2,000 pounds), valued at the mines is the runco, so-called because it snores at \$195,557,649; against 193,117,530 when brought out of the water. For) heavy sport, fishing for sharks, which are good for nothing, or the gusa, which weighs from 400 to 800 pounds and is excellent eating, offer abundant exercise. It is a daily occuur- in 1895 to \$1.51 in 1896, while the averrence to see schools of fish, numbering from hundreds to many thousands, each ash weighing from one to four pounds. swimming around the bays and harbors waiting for a bait. Any American who enjoys good fishing can find his fondest dreams more than satisfied in Cuba.

Delicious shrimps, crabs and lobsters have no claws and weigh from two to eight pounds. They are caught at 000. Wyoming and Nebraska are taken night in shallow places along the sandy beach, a torch, harpoon and net being the necessary outfit. Some of the rivers abound in alligators, but few hunt

Seed of Corn 3.000 Years Old.

Three or four years since an Indian

mound in Arkansas was being excavated when an earthen jar was found, hermetically sealed, that contained a small quantity of grains of Indian oren. Some of the grains were the next year planted in Missouri and several bushels raised. On the top of the mound from which the jar was dug out a large tree four feet in diameter was growing and It is thought the corn lay buried many years. Squire James L. Neil. one of our most prosperous farmers, sent and procured a small quantity of the corn, paying over two cents a grain. This he planted last year, but the yield was er at less than one cent a car mile; saved enough, however, to get in a good patch this year. He has used it for roasting ears, and says it is the best he ever had. The ears are not large, but grow two to three on a single stalk. The one thing peculiar about this corn an ordinary bottle with a piece of cork. is its color, or rather colors. On the ing one seems to be good sound comsame cob are grains of different colors, and in the row you can find an earthat is white, another blood red, one where only one ran before is of more are end to be the two roughest seas in | salmon colored, and another perfectly one to the world than the engineer also and the second sec

erials recorded at the patent Date gestus proposes to make bricks but of present paper palp, which is de-clared to be samirably adapted for the purpose, being very durable montable sorbent of water and a non-onof heat. Glass bricks are the invention of a Swede named Gustave Palconnier. While Cube offers such a haven to They are hollow, being blown in any sportsman, wild game and fish of all taste. They have made very orms mentel and may even be sugraved with tesing by meas of he sand hast Cost need not prevent anybody from incluiging in the luxuer of a glass house, inasmuch as these bricks are quite cheep. Being hollow, and all tight they serve as non conductors of selves in the paths where the deer are heat by confining air that is in a state

It is said that the glass bricks do no transmit sound readily. This is a point through with the chase, surrounded by that seems to be considered at of much importance in architecture, and quit a number of patents relate to what it termed the "destening" of buildings -I o making them sound proof. Oh in wenter proposes to fill the wall with sem-wood and sait water plants, compresent between sheets of paper and natled in place. For this purpose he prefers cel grass and fist-leaved algae! These, he asserts, are not at all inflam-mable even when dry because they comptain a large precentage of allica. Partition walls being prepared in the manner described, sound will not carry from room to reom. The same process applied to floors will prevent the occunames of a non musical flat from being driven insane by the tintingabulations

Equally ingenious is the idea of an other patentee who proposes to our struct floors with rows of the case last between the beams and beneath the planking. The cans are exhausted of air, each of them containing a couple of quarts of vacuum, se to speak. It is explained that, while making the deoridea-makers is more original, however Fowls are in great numbers. Wild then the lows gentleman, who suggests guinea hens and turkeys are found in the employment of hay in the building compressed into large bricks and hard like ordinary bricks in the construction. with wire in lieu of mortan Perhaps gions. Ducks in abundance come over equally striking is the notion of a genwith the Spring. Wild pigeons, with ing artificial lumber. He takes a lot of their white tops and bodies of blue, cornstalks and pours upon them a mixlarger somewhat than the domestic ture of liquid cement, wool, hair, toait hardens, there you are.

If you like, though at the risk of mornings the pigeons generally go to of a Connecticut man who has thought Robiches, tojosas and guanaros are mond, Kan. He suggests that chimneys and smokestacks might be made of wood more economically than of bricks. Comting the inside of the chimney with paint and throwing sand upon the latter while wet, he obtains a mirrage she solutely proof against fire, the heat paint in a homogeneous, glassy glass, This invention is a great boon, insamuch as brick chimneys are sadiy experseive. Incidental to the discussion of freak patents in the building Ene, it is worth while to mention a Bunsia inventor who had devised a rat-proof and bug-proof house. Of course, rate lichen, great white coral trees help iners, commonly finding free passage rainbow, darting hither and thither, with cement, so that "varmimia" of all

-Buffalo Commercial.

The Nation's Coal Production The coal production of the United ation made by E. W. Parker, statistics 1895. The amount of coal mined in Pennsylvania was 53,771,800 tons and thracite and 49,101,148 tone bituminous The average price obtained for anthracite at the mines increased from SLAT age price for bituminous decreased from 86 cents to 83 cents. Illinois is second to Pennsylvania, with nearly 20,000,000 tons, and Ohio and West Virginia mirred each nearly 13.000,000 tons. Alabarna comes next with nearly 6,000,000 then Maryland, Indiana and lows with 4.000,000 each. Kentucky mined a little over 3,000,000, and Kansas, Tennessee, and Missouri each mined over 2,000,together and credited with 2,000,000 lons, and Virginia, Montana and Indian Territory and Washington each produce over 1,000,000 tons. The States which produce coal in smaller amount are Arkansas, New Mexico, California and Alaska, Michigan, North Dakota, Oregon, Texas and Utah.

Cost of Trolley Power. The annual reports of the Railway commissioners of New York and Massachusetts show that the cost of running a trolley-car a mile varies remarkably in different cities. Of nineteen com panies operating less than 250,000 car miles per annum, four obtained their power at less than two cents per car mile under average conditions of load. tracks, etc.; six, between two and three cends: five between three and four cents; one, between four and five cents. and three at more than five cents. Of five companies operating over 5,000,000 car miles per year one obtains its pow small on account of the drought, He' three, between one and two conts, and one between two and three cents. The Brooklyn Heights company have the cheapest power, eighty six miles per car mile, and the Binghamion next-ninety-four mills. Chespuess of coal at the given point is, of course, a fact or in price of power, but the sontrollmon sense in electrical engineering The man who makes two cars run The delens Watchip of a dynamic Code -Hectore Codeshi:

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