And saw the men in blue go by, Yet never wondered where or why, Only a year ago,

But now I pause in the crowded street Whenever a man in blue I meet, For I've lost a friend whose smile was

sweet-Sweet to me in shade or shine. Sweeter to me than song or wine-A friend whose heart kept march mine.

Only a year ago. wheath the shade of yonder tree Only a year ago,

My friend and soldier sat with me, And all was peace on land and sea, Only a year ago,

But peace, it seems, is a golden sheath, A scabbard that hides the blade beneath.

And the oak prepares a soldier's wreath-

Honor, truth, and love entwined, Beauty and faith and fame combined--

So short was sight and hope so kind, Only a year ago.

My friend his dearest friend had lost,

Only a year ago, His heart, I knew, was tempest tossed When Death the line of living crossed, Only a year ago,

We spoke of Hope and of Death and Grief. Of life as the fragile flower or leaf.

And of Death who garners the grain in sheaf. Grief, the cloud of kindly rain,

Hope, the lord of tears and pain-Our saddest song had a glad refrain Only a year ago.

Along the lane of leaves we went, Only a year ago, Above the listening branches bent

Their wealth of fruited hue and scent. Only a year ago, A clasp of hands, but no word of fear. A parting devoid of pain or tear. And a friend was gone whose smile was

dear-Dear to me in shade or shine, Sweeter to me than song or wine-

A friend whose heart kept march with mine.

Only a year ago. -Edward F. Burns, in Boston Globe.

HIS LETTERS.

and been three months married. a secretaryship which I had been might have heard of it?" promised on a commission appointed to inquire into some abuses the government did not want to find out, but the preliminaries dragged, and I found day," retorted the other. myself doomed to a period of enforced. idleness which did not improve my temper, and I fear tried my wife's sorely, for, though happy, we were human. Our first, and, thank heaven, our only tiff, took place one memorable she said, "I have been very patient." day when we were both gardening on ' tached to our modest dwelling. In ed the other. making a border I had planted a num- 1 ber of carnations and p.cotees together. contrary to my wfes directions, and would have said. I answered tartly, being preoccupied with bitter thoughts,

and so acrimonious did our discussion become that Edith went into the house. After some minutes reflection I felt the childushness of my conduct and followed to make it up. She was not in the little atticlike boudoir at the top of our mansion, so I descended to best husband is a reformed rake. servatory and hall. By chance I chose room when I heard the sound of a well light for a man." remembered voice, and, drawing the ! portiere aside cautiously saw my wife face to face with Arbusculia.

"I daresay you know who I am?" the atter was saying.

Edith denied the implied honor. .

"Then is your state the more gracous," retorted Arbuscu'a. "But your husband does, and that is the chief point. The servant told me he was at ing. I could see her gresp upon it was Richmond. or Staten Island, 36,001 home." She looked just as splendid as ever and swept our modest little apartment with a scornful glance.

"My husband is engaged," said Edith. 'Anything you have to say may be said to me."

"Indeed?" replied Arbuscula. "Well. have got a good many things to say." My wife folded her hands and, finding one of her gardening gloves on, pulled it off and threw it on the table.

'Guard!" thought I. "And first," continued Arbuscula, "I want to say that your husband is the writer of those letters." And she deposited a formidable bundle on the table beside the glove. "They were written to me. You may read them if

you choose.'' "I have no desire to do so," replied

my wife valiantly. "They would interest you." the other went on. "You could compare them with those he has, I dare say, written

to yourself." "I fear you misunderstand, though the error is a natural one—for you," re-

plied my wife considerately. A spot of light shone in Arbuscula's. eye. "They would be useful," she continued, "if you wanted to make things hot for him-as you undoubtedly will." My wife was silent; she played with

her wedding ring. "Or parhaps you won't care to see them in the public press," the other added viciously. "I know a literary chap who would dress 'em up well; they'd want a little draping for a paper

know of." "I conclude then, that the lawyers have marked 'no case?'" observed Egith, and Arbuscula glanced curious

The not take any wrongs to a law

courti" she said magnificently. "In that you show your windom." roplies may wife. Arbusculs looked at her amin, with mousthing approaching respect, but there was a sparkle beneath the evelids.

"Come, what will you give to prevent it?" she askëd.

"Nothing," responded Edith quietly. "He would be of a different opinion!" observed Arbusquia. "Hardly," said my wife. "He is not

a fool." "You are the first woman who ever said that of him," retorted Arbuscula. "I do not doubt it," replied my wife, with much significance, and the other reddened slightly. "Under the guard," thought I.

"All women are the same to him," continued Arbuscula, recovering herself. "What is the difference between you and me? A wedding ring."

"And all it symbolizes," rejoined my wife softly.

"That's a house on a fifth rate terrace, with only one stopcock for eight of ye, and the lady next door cuts of the water when she has had a few words with you over the hedge-I know it!" sneered the other.

"Oh, it symbolizes more," said Edith, but her tone was weaker. The thrust had gone home, for the study of hydrostatics had been forced upon us of late. "And what is that, pray?" demanded

Arbuscula insolently. "To explain would be to insult your intelligence—and · yourself," replied Edith. "Beat in carte, lunge in tierce!"

thought I. "Oh, I am not thin skinned!" laughed Arbuscula.

"I made allowance," repoined my wife.

Arbuscula's lips became a thin line of scarlet. They parted, and she smiled. I knew that she had always possessed a most unfeminine sense of humor, but I was not prepared for its assertion at this supreme moment. The two women stood looking at each other across the table. Arbuscula's dazzling småle lighting her face, my wife's pale, yet never so beautiful, I thought, though now, enlightened by the contrast, I noted the lines of anxiety which had been creeping there during the past months, and violet shadows under the sweet eyes. The other gathered up the letters and began to shuffle them as one would a pack of cards. "You are dying to read them!" she said.

was not so explicit. "Here's one—it's poetry," continued

Arbuscula. "It was written for astays came from the timber used to heat the and lived in the blossed expectancy of I invented, the Arbuscula busk-you

"No, it must have been before my time," said Edith innocently. "Possibly you came rather late in the

"But come to stay." and

Arbuscula laughed. Edith put her hand upon the hell. "You surely will not compel me!"

"You'll want all the patience you a plot of soot blackened ground at- have in the good time coming," rejoin-

'And you, what will your future be without patience?" asked Edith.

'My future can take care of itself," on discovering the mistake she said cried Arbuscula, laughing a laugh short due to a newspaper article calling atwhat I suppose nine out of ten women as the snap of a breaking sword blade. tention to the need of such a law. "I'm a woman with a past, the sort movality humbugs chatter about, but if I had a future like you, by —, I'd try to get something better than the butt en of a roue."

"Using the Hilt," thought I. My wife laughed gayly now. "You know the old adage," she said, "the search for her in the drawing room, Men's follies often serve as beacons to queer name some years ago through which had doors opening on the con- guide them past the other shoals and the fact that the people living there shallows of life. Experience enables the first and had almost entered the them to appreciate things-it is a good

"And a useless one for a woman," answered Arbuscula, with a sudden change of tone, "It's like the poop light which shows the foam upon the reef that has just torn the poor ship's side out-much good, when the masts are

going by the board." She gathered the letters together. Whatever had been her puprose in com- nexed district, 26,270 acres, borough of gone. Catching at that moment the reflection of my own fare in a mirror op. acres; borough of Queens, 79,847 arces. posite, I was so ill pleased by the sight The official total area of Greater New that I stole down stars, hearing another hacking laugh and the tinkle of

a bell as I went. I returned to the garden and com-Presently Edith came out also with an wrote: "Be tender of offending the armful of plants she began to sort, Indians. . . . Make a friendship and singing a crad'e song I much admired the while.

nations up," I said, "but for the life of of the Indians and entered into "g. eat me I can't say which is which!"

far too much trouble, dear," she said softly. "And after all your labor, too. I'm so sorry!" She pressed my arm. and the touch covered more than the words.

"But the line was not straight," I answered, averting my eyes. I passed my arm around her waist and kissed her. She put both her own

around my neck. "My wife!" said I. "You old goose," she whispered, bit-

ing my ear. "I saw you all the time!" -Black and White.

Meedless Invention.

"If I ever tackle anything in the line of inventions," he said, "I shall endeavor to devise some scheme by which a person getting on an open street car can do it without sitting in the lap of the fellow who sticks to the outside seat."

"Pshaw!" she exclaimed, "do you want to spoil all the fun?"

If you would make a self-made man

The second

The emperor of China has to fast sixty-four days in each year for the sake of religion.

Recently a ship of only 3,500 tone eserted from Para, Brazil, to New York, a cargo of rubber, which was in- lan knife grinder. Or is he a Greek sured for \$3,000,000.

Men exposed to the rigors of the never wear mountaches. They wear full beards to pretect the throat and face, but keep the upper lip clean shaven. The moisture from the breath congesis so quickly that a moustache becomes embedded in " solid cake of ice and the face is frozen in a short time,

It is averred by a famous Chinese doctor that nervousness is kept out of the Celestial empire by the use of soft-soled shoes. The hard soles worn by the Anglo-Saxon race are said to be the cause of their extreme nervous temperament.

The oldest tree on earth with an au want it." thenticated history is the great bhoo tree of Burmah. For twenty centuries it has been held sacred to Buddha, and no person is allowed to touch the trunk. When the leaves fall they are

carried away as relics by pilgrims. There are only seven ambassadors representing England abroad. The seven great powers entitled to receive them are France, Austria, Germany, Italy Russia the United States and Turkey. The salaries - range from: \$35,000 to \$50,000, the British ambassasum, and holding the most coveted post in the diplomatic service abroad.

Dr. Weir in discussing the tendency of some insects to get drunk, says: 'An intoxicated bee was carried to my laboratory for dissection and micropic investigation. This insect was so drunk that when placed upon its back it had the greatest difficulty in getting upon its legs yet when a cosmos blossom was brought within two inches of its head the bee thrust out its proboscis and staggered toward it. It immediately began to suck the nectar, and in a few moments tumbled over, a drunken, senseless, almost inert little mass,-a victim to appetite."

Telephonic communication, it is said, has been established between a number of farms in Australia by means of wire fences. A correspondent of the Australian Agriculturist from a station near Colmar represents that it is easy to converse with a station eight miles distant by means of instruments connected on the wire fences, and that the same kind of communication has been established over a distance of eight miles. Several sta-My wife's voice said, "No." Her face tions are connected in this way.

People have been poisoned with bread containing salts of lead, which oven. The Paris Council of Hyglene has therefore, forbidden the employment of painted or unpainted wood from old houses, old sleepers impregnated with ceosote or sulphate of copper, and disused blocks of wood paving for heating ovens, on the ground that poisonous volatile salts may arise from them and deposit on the roof or floor of the oven.

RANDOM COMMENT

The Connecticut legislature has passed a law protecting the trailing arbutus, said to be the first law ever passed in any State of the Union for the protection of a wild flower. The law in question is said to be largely

A new industry is springing up in northern Mexico-siking wells for salt water to manufacture sait for mining and domestic purposes. One company has secured 120,000 acres of salt place forms of speech, you may sharpsouth of Laredo, and have struck water containing twelve per cent salt. worth from one to three cents a pound. The town of Shakerag, Mo., got its were so poor in those days that whenever a family began to make preparations to move its members had so little personal property that all they had to do was to shake out a few old rage, fold them up and put them in the

waron before starting. The actual area of Greater New York is stated by the board of improvment to be as follows: Manhattan borough, or Manhattan island, 13.487 acres; borough of the Bronx, or anacres: borough of Brooklyn, 42,095 York is 306 square miles, with an es-

timated population of 3,200,000. A part of William Penn's wisdom and brotherly love was shown in his tie ment of the Indians. To his first menced to patiently dig up the border. commissioner in this new province he league with them. Be grave; they love not smiles." He, himself after I went over to her. "I got those car- his arrival in America, purchased land promises of friendship." At a later She ran to the border. "Ah, you took date he wrote: "We leave not the least indignity to them unrebuked, nor wrong unsatisfied. Justice gains of men is to make interest coincide and awes them." So Pennsylvania was long free from Indian dangers, human nature. Latet anguls in herba, and not until the later troubles with France began was the progress of the

colony seriously threatened. "Here is what I believe to be the only umbrella of its kind in New Orleans," said a lawyer who has an office in the shopping district. "I bought it in Germany year before last, and nobody can open it except myself. Do you notice that little keyhole in He says he leaves his parient when he the slide? Here's the key on the other end of my watchchain, and until it is health.' An honest artisan is coninserted and turned the thing is absolutely immovable. Anybody else would find it harder to raise than a Kansas mortgage. On at legst a dozen different occasions the umbrella has been stolen, or taken by accident, if you prefer the term, but it siways found its way home. You see, my name is cut on the handle, and the umbrella itself is well known to all the attaches of the building. When they see a stranger struggling with it in the doorway on a raing day they grinder, an old schoolmaster in rebring it beek.

"Hold on!" said the young man with the pale mustache. "Here's an Ital-What of him?" asked the youth

with the dynamite neckties. Garibaidi," he drawled supplier to who wanted to make a name and for speak to the kulls grinder or So tune for himself. So one day he went crates! What compensation do you to a merchant our who owned a big exact for conferring a satisfactory de building and said. gree of sharpness upon the ordinary would like you air, to give me a pocket weapon of commence

"Ten cents," replied the grinder in position here." excellent English.

upon the implement in any manner the elevator."

that may be stipulated I presume "I will take the lob" said the "Yes, sir. Grind it any way you

as awarded at the figure designated. agreement into actual effect."

Here he took from his pocket a pearl-handled knife with four blades, position, for he got to a week, and "You observe," he said, "that this is think what you can buy for three the file blade. The point is sufficiently dor at Paris receiving the highest sharp already, but the rest of it, as you cannot fail to see, is extremely dull and in need of grinding."

"You don't expect me to sharpen the

"Hippocratesi, my friend-or Callgula, as the case may be permit me to recall your attention to the terms of the contract upon which we are now proceeding. It was expressly stipulated and agreed that this weapon was to be operated upon in any manner that might be desired. It is my desire, Apollodorus—or perhaps I should say Quintus Curius-that this particular file blade at which you are squinting, if I may use a term so unclassical, be ground down until it shall have attaixied a satisfactory degree of sharpness. which degree will have been reached when its outting edge is as keen as that of the other blades. Do I make myself sufficiently definite and coherent?"

"Oh, yes," responded the man with the emery wheel, drawing his coat sleeves across his nose.

A crowd of interested spectators had gathered by this time, and the youth with the dynamite necktie was beginning to feel uneasy.

"Let's go," he said, plucking his had fun enough out of this. Let's get from fop to toe: Then he said, "My away from here."

"Grimshaw," replied the young man more than \$8 a week." action of business. Aristippus or low, he went back to the elevator car Scipio Africanus-it is clearly under- and kept at work. stood, is it not, that the consideration shall be one dine-10 conts?"

"Yes, that's all right." that blade to the necessary thinness nal. and sharpness, in accordance with the provisions of the contract previously entered into, may I ask?"

"It will take about two hours." said the grinder, examining the blade. "Well, then, Cleombrotus-or Lucius Junius Brutus-I will voluntarily abate and moderate the terms of the contract. To descend to the commonwater territory at Camaron, 120 miles | en any blade you darn please, and your dime's ready for you."

"That may be your idea of a contract, sir," said the grinder, applying the file blade to the wheel. "but it isn'z mine. It takes two to make a bargain, and it takes two to break it. You shall have your knife, sir, in about two hours, with file marks all erased from this-"

"That will do, my friend," interrupted the young man with what was intended to be a patronizing smile. you've earned your dime aircady. "No, sir," remarked the other, grinding away. "We'll not call it square till the provisions of the contract have. been carried out. Give yourself no uneasiness, Grimes-or is it Eerguson? -as regards the strict fulfillment of the contract, in all its particulars. It will be observed in its ground plans and specifications, if it takes the hide-

off. I haven't a great deal of work to do anyhow. This is rather a dull day with me, Thompson-or Jones-and I prefer work to idleness, even if I don't get rich. I would hardly have taken you. Perkins-or Snodgrass-for a man who would voluntarily undertake to impair the obligation of a contract. You don't look like one of that sort, Faithfulness to promise is one of the cardinal virtues. You remember Alexander Hamilton says somewhere that 'the best security for the fidelity with duty,' but this is a sordid view of as the French have it. 'Mine honor is my life; both grow in one,' as Shakespeare hath well said. 'Honor,' declares Wordsworth, 'is the finest sense of justice which the human mind can frame.' You will readily recall. Higgins-or Burnside-what Sir William Temple avers of an honest physician, can contribute no further to his

structed on a plan somewhat similar. He finishes his job and then turns it over. He does no further work upon which to base a claim for further fee. Does it not seem to you, Williams-or Lukenheimer-that old Garth was right in saying, 'when honor's lost 'tis a relief to die?' Listen to old Jeremy Taylor: 'My son, look not upon--

But the young man with a pale mustache had fied, gasping, and the knife laded pucket knife sheed

"I'm going to give him a job. Hello, Master Shall was an ambittoon chap

"Well," said the merchant bug, "you

"Precisely so, Plate-or Nepos," ze seem to be a pretty smart little chap. loined the young man. "You operate and I will give you a position to run

"I will take the job," said the small. All he had to do was to stand in the elevator can and when any one got in "It gratifies me. Aristophanes or and said. "Let me of at the fourth Tarquintus Superbus-beyond meas- soon," he would turn a wheel and up ure to find that we can setttle upon the glevator would so to the fourth preliminaries with so little sircumto floor. And it it was the second or the cution. We will consider the contract third or the fifth floor it was just the and will proceed to carry the specified down in the clevator it was just as

Master Snall certainly had a good



MB. MERCHANT BUG.

whole dollars! But one day he grew dissatisfied, and he went to the merchant bug and said he thought he should be paid \$4 n week.

The merchant bug stuck his feet up companion by the sleeve. "You have on his desk and looked at Master Small. boy, I am sorry, but I cannot pay you

with the pale mustache, turning a se- And what do you suppose Master verely reproachful countenance upon Small did then? He gave up his post dournal, you are obstructing the trans- tion? No indeed! Like a sensible tel-

"I will hold on to this job until I get another," said he, "for I had better be getting \$3 a week than be out of work "How long will it require to bring and getting nothing." Detroit Jour

An Animal Story For

Little Polks

Once upon a time a great crowd of Hello, Porkyll cried the lion. men went out to catch a number of the want to borrow one of your good quilts big elephants to show them in a circus, to write a letter."

The elephants heart that they were "I can't spare one of my quilts just coming and they made all haste to get at present," replied the poccupies.

out of the way. But there was one big fellow who thought that he could deceive the men and decided to try a Caring plan. Take ing a sent on a large stone at the side of the road, he filled a pipe with to bacco, and was philling, away content, edly when the men came along. "Isn't that a funny elephant?" said

"It certainly is replied another Tust see him sitting there smoking his pipe and paying no attention to us at



BITTING THERE SMOKING HIS PIPE.

all. I should think that he would be afraid that we would carry him off to the circus,"

"It is really strange," another one Then they all sat down and watched

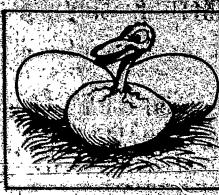
the elephant for a little while and talk ed about what would be the best thing for them to do about him. "I'll tell you what I think," finally, said one of the men; "this elephant is

already a circus elephant, and he would not run away from us if he could The best thing to do is to leave him here and go on after the others. When we have caught them we can come

back and get him." so they all went of to catch the other elephants, and, of course, no sooner had, they got out of sight when Mr. Fory Elephant made tracks for a sate duced circumstances, was a good four. Diace where they never could get him Chicago Tribunes

color, (belt illing select) Professions to desired rent old one elliger, in the lie had is got his head (breat shrongs) the an of an egg wird taken bis first peep w the wide, wide world "My." he exclaimed, "like this w

to be able to be se this out shell ee the sights! "But," cried a spring chicker Lea standing poet, Lon met



MIN HEAD THRUST THROUGH THE RESILE it after awhile. The rain mar pour down and wetyou as It did me the first day I was in the barnyable

That gave the duckling something think about. Bressently he made up mind as to what to do. "I shall simply stay in my about and he "When it raise I shall draw in my head, and if the water rises about mis thy shell will foot like a

boat Of course-Master Duckling was very much pleased with his idea, and he drew in his lieut and went to sleep. While he sleep a great storm have up. and the shell, instead of floating like a boat, sank in the water like a rock.

Master Duckling was sure that be rould drown before help could reach

"Come out of your shell!" cried a ble duck, who was swimming about in the Then the duckling with a mighty of

fort, burst the sides of his abeli and in a few minutes was paddling around as happy as he could be "Ist't it a shame," said he to him "that I did not have sense each come out of my shell before?"-Den

Soon after the Ilon Tell in let thought it would be just-right for him to write a letter to his sweetheart, and he started out to find pen and ink with which to do it. Aspiner the first person that he came across was the possuppas. who was just bratling with quills the linest sort of quills for letter writing...



"OR, MIL OR, MIL ON, MAI" "But I'll tell you what I'll do. You can tell me what you want to say and I'll write the letter for you." "No, indeed," cried the lion, "I mu

write it myself. "Not with my quills," answered to porcupine: "You might break one of them, and I would never get it back again "You won't let me have a quill You refuse me the king of beasts! The

will teach you a lesson I will eat yo And with that the lon opened his STEEL IN STREET, STREE down with full force upon the strie porcupine. The next moment be wa howling with pain while blood hower from a bundred gashes in his m mede by the sharp points of the quill "Oh my Oh my! Oh me?" he

screamed in pain. "What have you "I haven't done anything " answer the porcupine "I haven't moved to this spot." "Ob my Look at the blood" er a the lion. "It will make good ink for your ter": said the portuping. "You are unknot by me?"

"And you real that we