An hour lator the expected visitor made his appenrs room. Ho was a young man stlll, a native of Etretat, between Havre and Fecamp Hill name was Mathurin Lemonnier, and though he eame of pure Norman stock, his open, smilling eountenanee betold a frankness which si any.
thing but the exolualve inheritance of his race. As he approached the bed Gaptaln Lemonnier made a low bow.
I understand that you were comper Don Jose. cldentersto put out of your wourse. My Mrliend Le-
Vallant's letter reached me tor "Senor Don Jond," returned the oaptain ald am sorry to see that your health is not what Mr. "Never mind me," returned the dylng man.
Tell me about my friend. How did you leave "Tell me about my friend. How did you leave
"Well, in every way. His health is good, and his bustuess more than prosperous. Notwith-
standing his age he has all the rigor and activi$t y$ of a man of thirty.
"Heaven be praised ! And his son q"
"Mr. Ollver ts the e "Mr. Ollver is the handmomest and best young
man in all Normandy. He has the looks and appearance of a lord. But withal, and lis and ap
the immense riches the immense riches that will be his, he is all
sweetness, simplicty and good humor. There is no limit to his charity. He is the benefactor And consoler of all who are in distress. In a
word, from Cape la Hogue to the mouth of the Somme he la, I will not say loved, but adored." "Heaven be pralsed "" bald Don Jose once
more. "Annuinipta will be happy," he added
to himself. to himself.
"When I set saill," continued the captaln, " he
was not at Harre," was not at Havre."
"Whare was he?

He was travelling on the coast of Brittany, Where no doubt he will have the opportunitiy of
making some ane pletures, for he draws and
making some ane pletures, for he draws and
paints better than some people who make it
their buisiness. He is a musiolan too knows it thitr beusiness. He Is a musiolan too mnows as
thuch about music as the man who invented it He plays several instruments beautifully, and sings:-1t would hring tears into your gees to
hear him. He writes charming verses, fences
lite like a gentleman, rides like a trooper, rows like
a pilot, and if necessary could take command of a pilot, and if necessary could take command of
a vessel just as well as a captain tn the royal
navy." Lemonnier spoke with all the torvar navy," Lemmonnier spoke with all
and enthusiasm of honest conviction.
Don Jose raised himself in his bed, seived the Worthy Norman's hand and pressed it warmly
in his own. "Ah! if I were stlll rioh," he thought, "I
would give this good man a a, "undred thousand
livres for what he has sald," Hivres for what he has said."
"Well, my child, what her. "Well, my child, what do you think of the
son of my dear friend?"
"I thint" worthy of his father, who munat ba, "that he is
fect of men since you love him."

## a tale of the puture.

" No, sir, I will not-I never bet. Onee only
in my life did I make a bet for a large sum, and in my ilife did I make a bet for a large enee only and
I lost that in such a humpliating way that I reglast that in such a humiliating way that 1 re-,
"You a vow not to be bitten a sacond time."
" Yaise my curiosity. As there is "You quite raise my curiosity. As there is
no chanoe of our settling by a friendly bet the
 nation our friend the costermonger is hawkit
you should at least let me have the benent
your first and last experience in that line." "It is au old story, now; but if you will 1 ight
a cheroot and join me in another botlie or Forzato I shall let you into the secret of my
dislike to betting." dislike to betting.
The speakers
The speakers were both Englishmen, and had
met by ohance at a little auberge in un out-ormet by ohance at a littie auberge in un out-or-
the-way vllage of the lower Engadine. Having
dined together, they were havis In tod verandah, when some trifing the diferengee
of oplnien brought on the converget or oplnien brought on the conversation given
above. As soon as madame the hostess had supplted
their wants, the elder of the two began to relate the following indident with an air or veraolty so strongiv marked that his listener found it in im-
poosstbe to doubt the accuracy of what he said :"The time I speak of is some twenty or five-and-twenty years ago, when the Alpine Clab
Was sill thits full glory. Things were every dif.
ferent then from what they are now. The ferent then from what they are now. The
Andes Association had not yet ben formed-
destiued as it was utlerly to cest into fore the destined as it whs utterly to yetst into the shade
its Alpine predecessor. There was no rallway over Mont Blane, and the Itea of a no ralifway to the
hotel on the top of the Matterhorn had not yet
been started hotel on the top of the Matterhorn had not yet
been started; tin frct, if I remember righty, the
hotel itself had not been built. I was at that time a member of the club, and I was at more that
thustastic individuats could have ben thusiastic individuals could have been found
amongst the number of its admirers. Innu-
merable were the artucles that merable were the artucles that I contributed to
its Journal, Eiving appalling accounts of the adventures 1 bad met wilting accounts of the ad-
cillmbing down preclpich ing peaks and and other little percilmbing down precipices, and other litlle per-
formaness of tait nature. Immense
my dellight and pride at beligg able to tod to be the magic letters A. C. after my name in the
visiturs' books in Swiss inns. Astonishing used oo be the "get up" in which I started for the
most ordinary mountain walk, girt about with


Vaniluem now, but it took a very nevere and a
very expenaive lesson entirely to cure me. And Yery expensive lesson entifely to oure me. And
the way it came aboot was this be way annual dinner of the club held at the crybtal Palace on a oortatn day in May, soon
arier I had taken my univernity degree. This dimner I had sett my heart on attending ; but coived a letter from nome country cousina, say lag that they were coming up to town that day, was pleasant; but as there was no help for it endeavored to calm my rufled temper with the assistanoe of my hookah, and so far suocoeded
that I wae not actually rude to my relative while oscorting them actualy rade to my relatives, thus done my duty, I began to consider what to ment I should f favor with my custom for dinner that evening. Juat ar I had wettled this im.
portant matter, who ishould portant mattor, who ishould I meet coming round a corner, but my fliend Jack Hilyar the the
very man, of all otherk, I should hav wished to very man, of all others, I should have wished to come upon at tho moment, Jack was as good a
fellos as ever breathed-pleasant and 1 lightfellos as over breathed-pleasant and light-
hoarted, but writh plenty pp aturf in him for all
that As hat. As lack would have it, he had not yet dinner together, and a good chat in the smok-ing-room afterwarda. Wo had nntighed the
second course, and were discoasing the wine and dessert, when a atranger enterod the wine and seated himsolf at the table next to me. Now perhaps, in thave bodinany a phyelognomish-not, character from that $I$ can road a man's genera tell at the frut glanop, whather a man is 1 can tlally my enomy or my friend. In this jud. ment at frat alght I have never yot found my atranger entered the room where wo satent the colved an intonase dillike to him -a foeling that
that man, if over he were to oroses my path would prove a dotermined and formidable foo Al a glance wo could seo that he was an Ameri
oan The sharp, eagle moe, the slouehing Ealt and above all, the intonsoly froe and oasy manof a doabt Patting three chairr together, he
stretched
 od at the insolence of the man; but, as we had anished our wine, wo adjournod to the amoking.
room. Soon aftor the Amerioan followed us inw the other room, and rearod hilmeolf up

 as much as possibie. Boon he grow tired of this
amusempent, no wo resumed the talt we hai
 roply to hit questions, I gave a glowing dosortp
tion of all ita glories. The harkh volce of the
American broke upon our
 sly glance at me,
friend once more,
"I hope, sir', he reloinod, in a most polite
tone, 'that you will give your reasone for that
optnion, as I had thought of becoming or met optnion, as I had thought of becoming a mem
ber; but; of courne, woald not do 0 , 4 con bhat the whole concorn wat a humbag,
"' Will
"WWall, stranger, you would nombot do. a know. named the thing wrong. It should be the " Brag
nompany, Limitiod." Some 'tarnal duter the Company, Limitiod." Somen 'tarnal dutfer that all the frolk near have known mountain that
then writes to all the European papers, to and then writee to all the European papers to say
that he has madie a nrat ascont. I reckon
they've raised the they've raised the prices of every darned thing
in 8 writueriand olose on nfty per cent. Then
they're they're suoh cheky on ousen to per meent ; and the
greater the duffer the coneeliter he is. it, stranger-don't do th.'
"While this was going on, I sat by allont, but it no longer, and burat out with: © This is stand vague abue, sir. I whl bet you anys sum of
money you ohose to name that I will select a
beller pountan bettior mountaineer from the members of the
club than any man you oan name
 "The Yankee looked me over from head to guess I'll take drawled out: © Wall, stranger, taineering be between you and me. I lay you
10,000 dollars that before this $u$ me thre yeara Io,000 dollars that before thlis time th
I'll have cut you out in tall cllimbing.'
" I had spozen hastly, and was
taken aback at being closed with so purfectly
However, I was in for it now and coul However, I was in for it now, and could not go back from nyy word. As coolly as I oould, I
sald: ${ }^{\text {Just as you llke. Let the bet be between }}$ you as any olher, but or course must be lodged by ed.' '، I oalc'late you're right, stranger. I won't do you bere you hear from meabout it. What do you say your name is"
"، Forbes-Henry Forbes.

Mine is Zachariah Johnaton, of Now York day three years, and whichever has hers this the tallest and hardest mountain has is to have done
stakea she
hand on 'thake hande on 1 t, stranger-shake
" Kere I wam obliged reluotantly to stretch out my hand to be grasped by the bony angera of
the other. After thile, ho towed the ond of hin
cheroot into the fireplace and saunt
the room whistiling 'Yankee Doodle.
"The whole affair had not taken more than ave minutes so that Jack had not had time to
interfere. His face, at the American left the room, was a study for an of tragic horror were all asement, and a sort sion. When the door was fairly shut, he burst into an immoderate fit of laughter which lasted for some time. 'Well, if I did not think it was all a joke,' at last he found breath to say.
should say it was as nasty a scrape as ever y
got yourself into. Making a bet of ex,000 with
an utter stranger. A bet that, if there were anything in it , would compel you to gore weaming about the world for three years, and spend fabulous sums of money on nothing at all. I'll just
go atter him and explain that, of course nothing go arter him and explain that, of course nothing
was meant by the thing, or else he will let that Was moant by the thing, or else he will let that
long tongue of his wag to such an extent, that we shall never hear the last of it.'
"As he got up to leave the room the manager pression of countenance. 'Excuse me, sir, but ${ }^{\text {are }}$ ": You Mr, Forbes

Yes, Forbes is my name.
" $\mathrm{Well}$, sir, the American gentleman who
has just lert the house--very strange gentleman has just left the honse-very strange gentleman
he appears to be-came to me a few moments ago and asked me to give you this slip or paper. men, that he handed me a note of hand for e2,000 payable this day three years, for which I gave him a recelpt. He said it was some bet he
had made with you, Mr. Forbes, and that you would understand about it.'
II felt as if 1 were in a sort of serio-oomic
dream ; but mechanically took the sup of paper dream; but mechanically took the slip of paper
of whioh the manager had spoken-there were only a very few words on 1t-' This day three years, May 19, 1885, at five in the afternoon, in "' Where is the gentieman now
in I
atarting from my chair.
"' Immediately after speaking to me, he
the hotel, and calling a hansom, drove on,
I I sant back, seeing that I had been outwitcod, and
language.
"Jack
on my shoume ove to me, and, laying his hand bargin; but cheer ap, old fellow, we'll take the Wind out of his salls before we've done with him. Let me see, now-I've just sold out of the 71 nt , and don't well know what to do with myself. oonce from this to Timbuctoo,
his hand ; 'but it won't do.' I could not think or letting you go on this wild goose ohase with be away from England; for do my utmost to win the bet I certalnly shin!'
""' Dap't takt ayy rubpish of that kind, about ing employment, tham seeing a little of the riend the Yankee. No, since I was partly the means or getting you into the scrape by talking
at all to the man, I certainly mean to see you at all to the
well out of it.?
"So, after a great deal of talk, it was nanally together in search of the highest and most diffcult mountains to be found. or course, before out that Mr. Zachariah Jobnston was not to ind niless odventurer, but bad wherewithal to
pay his debt, if he should lose. This polnt being ascertained, the next great question that Switzerland had been long used up. Norway was voted too low for our parpose. The highest So uhat for a time we were at a loss. I suggested
that it malght be a good plan to American on his own soll, by oonquering any peaks of the Rocky Mountains that wore not al-
ready known to the Alpine Club; pat on car caly known to the Apine Club; but, on care-
fal consideration, we rejected the ldea, as the hunters and trappers are familiar with them, A happy thought struck Jack. 'I have it,' he oried, 'Central Africa and the Mountains of the
"The more we talked the thing over the more
we llked it. Utterly unknown to and surrounded by a sort of halo of mystery, these, of all others, were the mountaing for us.
WIthin a fortingtt we had left London, laden
with ever With everything that could by any pessibility be good many things which certainly could not be so. My life, for a fow days before we started, Which Jack showed for buying all kinds strange articles which he asserted might come in handy. Among these, I remember, were a
circular saw, a churn, and a barrel-organ. The last he asserted would be invaluable in appeas ing the minds of the natives. In spite of the
amount of our impedimenta, we were more successful than most African travellers. Galining Compation from every possible source, and acrious tribes, who, in pite of their assertions or nearly four months ourselves, we whatrored ground before we even came in sight of the Moon
Mount:ins. See them, however, we did ; and there, in the midst of a mighty group, rose one slant peak, soaring far above the rest, and, in
spite of the torrid zone, white with eternal suow.
"On asking, as well as we could, of the na
plied something that sounded like ; Mumpph
Jomb.' This dellghted us $1 m$ menely as thads name for it , corrupt as it seemed to be , wad ${ }^{\text {an }}$ anclent rhymrmation or the idea conch inhabliod the Mountains of the Moon.
"Well, sir, I need not trouble you with an aco cuunt of all the difficulties we encountered before we reached the top of Mumph Jomb.
were we driven back by storms, and $n$ Were we driven back by stormas, and mists, in their ortginal in

## us any more.

us any more, "Jack and
 loft alt was the third day after we had bed slope leading to the top. Way up the las at the moment, and as the last step was oat sprang on to the clear space on the top
wild cheer. The sight that met my eyes however, very nearly made me stagg est polnt was our fitend Zacharlah Jo plcking his teeth with his bowie-knife. in a cheerful tone of voice. 'While you mon tracks upon one side of this ere mountal slmilar up the other ; but I guess you'll havi at that game.' With that he took off and with a low, mocking bow, wished
morning. Three minutes later he wa $h \in$ had ascended by.
"I need hardly tell you that we felt grad crushed by this melancholy termination a arst attempt, and it was in very low spiri
deed that was made our way down the tain and returned, after some weeks' tra

It
an developed itself in our brains, mat plan developed itself in our brains, more of mountains, why not go to the highes mountains, the Himalayas ? and, among Why not attempt the highest of them a Everest? The highest mountain in the We became perfectly fascinated by
day we talked of nothing else, and Mount Everest haunted our dreams. attempting it, on account of the very rare sta ing records of balloon ascent; but, on e rellef, that aeronauts had been to even culty in breathing. Before stany very great Fim alayas, we sent to England for several Which we concelved necessary for our ne
taking ; amongst others, for a small This last was owing to a suggestion I fancied it might, in nome agea, prose
I also wrote to Grindelwald for two of Morel, offering them such liberal ter felt sure they would agree to come.
two, I knew Cachat personally, and hat han once had occasion to see his skil I got a letter from him, saying that expedition, by another monsieur graged him American monsieur was able to come, and duly met andria. After a successful voyage and a
what uninteresting journey through the of Northern India, we at last reached the merable great mountain chain contalning would apper an insignit which Mon would appear an insignificant hillock. organize a large body of natives to act a or even mong quite uncertain how many human habitation, it was, of course, to bring a very large supply of provisio
well as tents, warm clothing, and the ments which we hoped to make use
ascent. The best maps of that regio we had been able to procure in Bomba pend on them in the least was impossieas base of Mount Everest itself, we found and to make a number of prellmey on slons on the sldes of the mountain. which a camp about 12,000 feet above de Which, from the vast height of the platea
scarcely above the base of the thountain Wo found, however, that the natives co stand a greater amoun high up on the sides of the neighboring tains, armed with a good geighboring Till about half the route in attacking passed we saw that we should have no to pass along a terrible would be n ful examination of this preoipices. wiss guide pronounced it to be to be a perpendicular icyond this in the deceptive such things are rasted to being able to cut our way ap settled ane weather, and then, early one laden with provisions for several daye, and my precious balloon in a little s

