#### TIT-BITS.

The fly i not much of an astronomer, but if there is a cream jug within his orbit, he'll find out all about the milky way.

The small boy learning the alphabet is very much like the postage stamp ho often gets stuck on a letter.

Ir Hir Him.—The bookkeeper and cashier of a large manufacturing establishment in the West was short and crusty with a stranger who called to make some general inquiries, and the man finally reddened up and said :

"I can buy stock in this concorn."

"What of it?"

"As a stockholder I can demand an examination of the books and

accounts for the last ten years."

"I beg your pardon," softly replie? the bookkeeper, as he dropped his pen and wreathed his face in smiles. "I was very busy. My dear sir, talk to me all day—all the week! I shall only be too glad to answer all enquiries."—Wall-street News.

NON-COMMITTAL .- An Austin poet entered the office of the Croshy County Clarion and Farmer's Vindicator and said to the editor, Col. Snort:
"Here's a little gem I've just dashed off. Read it and give me your candid opinion about it." Col Snort took the gem, and, after reading it over, said:
"It is a very delicate matter for me to give an opinion. You see if I say it is no good, you will not believe it; and if I say it is good, I will not believe it myself. The best way for me to do is not to express any opinion at all. I don't care to commit myself."—Texas Siftings.

The Japanese say: —"A man takes a drink, then the drink takes a drink, and the next drink takes the man." Evidently, the Japanese "have been there."

"You told me, Arthur, that your doctor advised you to drink whiskey. Has it done you any good?" "Well, I should say so! I got a barrel of it two weeks ago, and I could hardly lift it; and now I can carry it about the

A countryman was sawing his ground, when two smart fellows came riding by, one of whom called out with an insolent air, "Well, my good man, 'tis your business to sow; but we reap the fruits of your labor." The rustic replied, "'l'is very like you may; for just now I am sowing homp."

"How old are you, old hoss?" somewhat disrespectfully remarked a man to Descon Gilpin, as he entered the store. "Sir! I do not like to be classed among the quadrupeds." "Oh! yo don't—eh? Well, I called you old hoss 'cause I see by the bill you sent me yesterday that you was a pretty good

An American paper said, Becky Birchbad thinks it provoking for a woman who has been working all day mending hor busband's old coat, to find a love letter from another woman in the pocket. To which a contomporary answered -Perfect nousense; there is not a woman under heaven but would find the letter before she began to mend the coat—then it wouldn't be mended at all.

A country fellow entered one of the banks, and, walking up to the counter, exclaimed, "Here I am, I want you to take a fair look at me." Without a word further, he strode out The next day, the same customer appeared, uttered the same words, and again disappeared. The third day, at about the same time, he walked in, and advancing to the teller's desk, threw down a draft payable three days after sight. "Now," said he, "you've seen in a draft payable three days after sight. three times, I want the money for it."

A colored woman was heard this morning informing a neighbor that last night's storm frightened her so that she "shook like an ashpan."-Pittsburgh Chronicle.

A young lady was sitting with her lover in a charmingly-decorated recess. On her knee was a diminutive nice. In the adjoining room, with the door open, were the res. of the company. Says the little nice, in a jealous and very audible voice, "Auntie, kiss me, too." I leave you to imagine what had just happened. "You should my twice, Ethel, dear; two is not grammar," was the immediate rejoinder. Clever girl, that !

A Chicago firm recently had an order for an ornamental iron fence "large enough to enclose the grave of a young man about twenty-five years old."

HAD TO GO THAT WAY.—I wouldn't think of going by that'route, if I were you," said a railroad man to a tourist. "Longer than the other lines, I suppose?" exclaimed the tourist. "Not only longer, but passes through a poor country, and has no dining car service." "Dangerous, too?" "Well, yes; it is positively dangerous; you'd hetter go by our line." Well, I'm sorry, but I'll have to go by the dangerous route. The fact of the business is I have a pass over that line."

ADVICE TO MOTHERS.—Are you disturbed at night and broken of your rost by a sick child suffering and crying with pain of Cutting Teeth? If so send at once and get a bottle of "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," for Children Teething. Its value is incalculable. It will relieve the poor little sufferer inneediately. Depend upon it, mothers; there is no mistake about it It cures Dysentery and Diarrhora, regulates the Stemach and Bowels, cures Wind Colle, softens the Gurns, reduces Inflammation, and gives tone and energy to the whole system. "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup' for children teething is pleasant to the taste and is the prescription of one of the oldest and best female physicians and nurses in the United States, and is for sale by all druggists throughout the world. Price twenty-five cents a bottle. Be sure and ask for "Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup," and take no other kind,

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Persons tendering are notified that tenders will not be considered unless made on the printed forms supplied, the blanks properly filled in, and signed with their actual signatures.

Each tender must be accompanied by an ACCEPTED bank cheque made payable to the order of the Honorable the Minister of Public Works, EQUAL TO FIVE FER CENT, of the amount of the tender, which will be fo feited if the party decline to enter into a contract when called upon to do so, or if he fail to complete the work contracted for. If the tender be not accepted the cheque will be returned,

The Department does not bind itself to accept the lowest or any tender.

By order.

A. GOREIL,
Secretary.