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The Evening Chit-Chat

tice to frequently eral education." theory of a man at whose home I

who, when asked by his professor Such is the curacy and self-expression.

sometimes visit. He has five children, ranging from eight to nincteen years, and he is perpetually ask-An enlarged vocabulary

'A power of expression.

hildren derive from this training. And according to a school teacher who has had them all in her classes, they certainly seem to possess these qualities It is really remarkable how few people can define accurately even comparatively simple words. You all probably know the old trick of asking people what "spiral" means. To one person who will attempt to define the word there are least 999 who will im-

the air to illustrate a spiral staircase. We know in a vague way the meaning of many words that we cannot easily define. For instance, you doubtless use from time to time, such words as "shoddy." unobtrusive." "abstract." sumptuous," and in a vague way know the meaning of them, but to try to define them off-hand and then see how near you come to the dictionary de-

Too many of us are like the student

define "vacuum," said: "I can't exactask your children ly define it, but I've got it in my head. Sometimes the words my friend asks words they use his children to define are unusual and hear other words, of which he thinks all the people using and family may not know the meaning you will be giv- but quite as often they are simple ing them a lib- everyday words, whose definition he asks merely for the training in ac-

The last time I was there someone used the word "morbid," and Mr. S. asked twelve-year-old Margaret to de-

She thought a moment before she tried-that, also, is an excellent habit ng one or sucther of his flock to de- her father tries to inculcate—and then said that a morbid person was one who brooded over things. That is just about what I would have said myself, but referring to the dictionary-which by the way, in this household, is a reasonably small edition, kept in a convenient spot, and not such an ark and so inaccessible that one prefers ignorance to the Herculean task of getting it out-proved the exact meaning to be "diseased." "unhealthy." "Feasible." "optional" and "satire

were also defined in the course of the When we realize that although there are over 400,000 words in the English language, the average man does not use over 3,000 or 4,000, and the man who doesn't do much thinking gets mediately begin waving their hands in along with 100, it seems to me we ought to be anxious to take advantage of any scheme for helping our child ren to enlarge their vocabularies.

> ducts of accuracy and power of self expression. I think this process would

Even if it were not for the by-pr

Not Sisters

Now and again you see two women passing down the street who look like sisters. ing down the street who look like eisters. You are astonished to learn that they are mother and daughter, and you realize that a woman at forty or forty-five ought to be at her finest and fairest. Why isn't it so? The general health of woman is so intimately associated with the local health of the essentially feminine organ, that there are by a red cheeks and round there. there can be no red cheeks and round form where there is female weakness.

Women who have suffered from relief and cure in the use of Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription. It gives vigor and vitality to the eyes and reddens the cheeks.

organs of womanhood. It clears the complexion, brightens the No alcohol, or habit-forming drugs is contained in "Favorite Prescription."
Any sick woman may consult Dr. Pierce by letter, free. Every letter is held as sacredly confidential, and answered in a plain envelope. Address: Write's Biepensary Medical Association, Dr. R.V. Pierce, Pres., Buffato, N.Y.

Fads and Fashions.

In Paris the all-white frock is but liantine. arely seen. ailored suits.

Filet over color is a suggestion for summer wear. the summer gown. on collars and cuffs.

Long handles are characteristic of gloves. he newest sunshades. Milanese silk gloves may be lack, white, tan and pongee.

Net blouses with heavy lace are vorn with serge and linen suits.

Narrow turn-down collars of plain linen are shown among the new neck- ed and gathered over a pleated ribbon Many of the modish details seen on emerald or bright blue. rocks are repeated for the bathing estume.

Do not forget to open the sill. skirt t the left side over a contrasting unlerskirt. Contrasting linings of chiffon or

silk are used on the linen and pongee; parasols. Gay plaid silks are bidding for favor for trimming the caps and bags used for the surf This season's slipper of moire silk and satin are not quite so pointed in

One-piece frocks of blue serge are Abbeys Effer-Salt A good stomach and a merry soul are

the toe as formerly.

which, try Abbey's

lars of heavy ecru lace. Bags of coarse white cotton stuffs are most effectively embroidered in wool in Bulgarian or Oriental colors. knew. For bathing suits the materials most in demand are wool serge, mchair summer flannel, taffeta, satin and bril-

Boots and pumps of fine gun metal Buttons trim the skirts of plain tan Russian calf, buckskin in both were evidently in a state of great agiwhite and black are all popular for Doeskin is a very fine grade of

Pleated tulle is in favor for ruffles chamois, washes beautifully and wears much better than the ordinary chamois

fashion for eyelet embroidery, and it They had shouted to their colleagues is used more on voile and marquisette than on muslin. Round collars of finest batiste are

The use of the jabot, plisse or rabat exquisitely hand-embroidered and in is one of the features in summer some instances finished with a tiny ruffle of Valenciennes. Some of the latest jabots are pleat

The Norton Hill Mine Explosion.

in some bright color, such as cerise

Ten Men Were in Danger Zone, and Not One Escaped to tell the Tale. It was ten p.m., April 11th, 1908. The day-workers of Norton Hill were thinking about putting out their lights and going to bed, and the night workers in the neighbouring colliery were beginning their labours.

There was no sign of impending disaster. The cottages around wore the quiet, peaceful air always found where work is plentiful and prospects cheery, and the merry creaking of the it-head wheel on which the cageopes were slung was a pleasant reminder to the passer-by of the dis-slide down."

trict's prosperity. In a corner of the colliery a miner his little daughter.

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working in the pit, had to say, "Bless in the cottage had to whisper, "Oh,

Just Like a Lion's Roar! Suddenly, as she knelt and lisped kind of roar from the earth-a rumbling sound like the bellowing of a forest of lions heard at a distance. The plates rattled on the kitchen dressers. The beds shook. The floors seemed to tremble, and dogs began to

What had happend? Women dropped their knitting and men dropped their newspapers and stared at each other wildly. Folks who were already in bed sat up startled, the same as you do after a nightmare, and called out: "What was that?"

roar, more powerful than the first. replied to the query. People jumped out of their beds and dressed hurriedly and rushed out to the street. "An explosion! An explosion!" they

shrieked. They raced along to the pit-head shouting: "Explosion!" Explosion!" Down in the mine something was rattling out dead marches. The sound was all too familiar. An explosion had actually occurred, but how and with what terrible results nobody

All Lights Blown Out. There were two shaftings leading down to the mine, and as the terrified people neared them they saw emerging from one a band of colliers. They tation. They were trembling, and for a time they were unable to reply to the anxious inquiries levelled at them. They then explained that a tremend-

ous report accompanied by a cyclonic wind, had extinguished all the lights and the air had suddenly become foul. working in the portion of the mine whence the sound of the explosion came, but there was no answer, so they had to come up in order to descend the shaft nearest to the scene of the disaster. Amid a scene of excitement which

only those who have been present at a mine catastrophe can imagine, the miners thronged the cage and began the descent. Half-way down the cage stopped dead.

A collier tugged at the ropes and the rest jumped up in a body to assist the age to move. But it moved not single inch. It was jammed. The men looked at each other helplessly. Climbed Down Ropes to the Resent "Seems like a warning!" said one. "A warning-what about?"

"A warning that if we go down w shan't come up alive." "Rot!" half a dozen fellows cried

Without waiting to ask an opinion one man climbed to the top of the cage and looked over the side down into the blackness below.

"Here you are!" he said. "There's room between the cage and the wall. Follow me. Catch hold the ropes and And down they slid. The first mai

to reach the bottom went tearing away looked at his watch and thought of in the direction of the scene of the explosion, but he had not gone far Up above, in the bedroom of the when he was overcome by the poisonminer's home, the child knelt by her ous fumes—the aftermath of the excot and offered up her nightly prayer plosion-and he fell down. The secfor her parent's safety. It was an ond man fell over him, and then a arrangement scaled with kisses. Every third. The last man down the rope

to the foot of the shaft. The air was rank with pois

Meanwhile the cage was being loser ed and another party of rescuers was preparing to descend. For hours there was a steady stream of men coming scuers desecended, the wives and hildren standing by looked on admir ingly and cheered, and when the men returned, stupefied and fainting, the white waiting faces bent down and kissed the coal dust from the lips of

the heroes. Owing to the stifling nature of the air in the mine, but little progress was made for a long time. Right through the awful night the story was the same; the men could not penetrate to the spot where the trapped miners had been working. It was heartrend ing work.

First They Found The Plt Ponies The returning rescuers were met a the pit mouth by the red eyes and tear stained cheeks of the missing miners relatives. Where were the men! What had happened to them? Why hadn't they been brought up?

Then long after dawn the air i the pit cleared a little, and the searching colliers pressing forward clos together in order that prompt assist ance might be rendered when a man was overcome by the choking fures, came across two or three pit ponice lying dead in the workings. The poo animals had been blown out their stalls and smashed against the walls of coal. Their mangled bodie lay among a pile of broken coal trucks and a mass of wreckage.

Farther on the searchers heir comrades.

spot at the time of the explosion and it was hoped that one or two at least would be found alive. But not one was left to tell the tale. The search ers tried every stimulant they had and holloaed out the men's Christian names till the passages rung with the her prayer, there was a dull, muffled cries, but there was never a response

Pinned to the Ground by Coal. The blown-up state of the workings and the terrible disfigurement of the victims showed with grim clearness what had happened. There had been some mishap in the firing of a rock of coal, and the mishap had been follow-

ed by the explosion. Some of the men lay pinned down under huge rocks of coal. Others lay face downwards on the ground, thei

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dead fingers gripping the dust. Others lay in a little heap-a pathetic indication of their vain rush for life. Few of the bodies had escaped the terribie effects of the disaster. Most of the faces were burned almost out of recognition, and when the searchers came to carry the bodies the limbs

threatened to fall away. They were borne to the surface to those who loved them, waiting at the nit head. And as the women fell sobbing by the rude biers and begged the dead to speak, strong men who had faced death without a tremor were seen brushing away the tears.

That night the miner's child knelt down as usual to pray. She stared at the lifeless figure on the bed. Then she turned her face to the sky, and cried: "Oh, God. tell me what to say now!"-P. W.

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