## AN INTERESTING PAGE FOR THE BOYS AND GIRLS.



will cook the porridge for supper."

"Yes, mother," said Margery. Then bread, and a bit of honeycomb?" nered one beside the chimney. The and sweetly and entered.

beautiful coach-and-four is drawn up Margery. there. There are lackeys in green and While they were eating their own say."

"Margery," said her mother, "take her spinning-wheel, ad came forward, meters about the stranger's rich atthe pitcher now, and fetch me some she was a very courteous woman. tire, and his flowing locks of real gold fresh, cool water from the well, and I said she, "and have a cup of our por-like diamonds. He furnished the little ridge, and a slice of our wheaten dog with hair of real floss silk, and

and got the pitcher, which was charm- porridge which was just beginning to such a dazzling appearance that sevshaped, from the cupboard boil; he hesitated a moment, but finally eral persons who inadvertently looked The cupboard was a three-cor- thanked the good woman very softly at it had been blinded. It was the

sure, but it was very pretty. Vines slices of wheaten berad, and a plate of the poem. It is a plty it has not been grew all over it, and flowering bushes honeycomb, a bowl of ripe raspberries, preserved, but it was destroyedcrowded close to the diamond-paned and a little jug of yellow cream, and how will transpire further on. windows. There was a little garden at another little bowl with a garland of Well, two days after this dainty one side, with beds of pinks and violets roses around the rim, for the porridge, stranger with his coach-and-four came in it, and a straw-covered beehive, Just as soon as that was cooked, the to the village a little wretched beggar and some raspberry bushes all yellow stranger sat down and ate a supper fit boy, leading by a dirty string a forlorn, for a prince. Margery and her mother muddy little dog, appeared on the Inside the cottage, the floor was sand- half supposed he was one; he had such street. He went to the tavern first,

ed with the whitest sand; lovely old a courtly, yet modest, air.

mond and Barbara. They were flying Margery sorrowfully.

along, their cheeks very rosy and their "The memory of a stranger one has her cap strings flying straight out beeyes shining.

"The memory of a stranger one has her cap strings flying straight out be-"Oh, Margery," they cried, "come up "I am glad the lark sang so beautito the tavern, quick, and see! The most fully all the while he was eating," said after her, "try me with the butter-

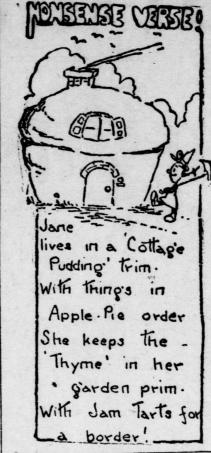
gold, with cocked hats, and the coach supper, the oldest woman in the village "Thou a Lindsay," quoth the oldest

dren went to school, with their hornbooks hanging at their sides, they found the schoolmaster greatly excited over it. He was a verse-maker, and though he had not seen the stranger himself, his imagination more than made amends for that. So the scholars were not under a very strict rule that day, for the master was busy composing a poem about the stranger. Every now and then a line of the poem got mixed in with the lessons.

The school master told in beautiful called his ribbon a silver chain. Then she put on her little white dimity hood The little boy sniffed hungrily at the the coach as it rolled along presented schoolmaster's opinion, set forth in his cottage which Margery and her mother lived in, was very humble, to be bottle of cowslip wine on the table, One could scarcely doubt it on reading

but the host pushed him out of the straight-backed chairs stood about; When he had eaten his fill, and his door, throwing a pewter porringer there was an oaken table, and a spin-little dog had ben fed, too, he offered after him, which hit the poor little ning-wheel. A wicker cage, with a lark his entertainers some gold out of a lit- dog and made it yelp. Then he in it, hung in the window—the lark tle silk purse, but they would not take spoke pitifully to the people he met, and knocked at the cottage doors, but Margery with her pitcher, tripped So he took hold of his dog's ribbon, everyone drove him away. He met by, her pointed nose up in the air and

hath a crest on the side—Oh, Margery!" came in. She was one hundred and woman contemptuously; but she was



His father was a Lindsay, and a very rich and noble gentleman. Some little time before he and his little son an event occurred that was to bring the poor little boy had crawled back family on the move.

Margery and her mother did all they had belonged to her son who had died a home in that neighborhood. She did think of the mother?" The little gentleman looked funny in the little rustic's blue smock, but he live in the state of the mother:

"I don't like her a bit, sir."

"I can't say that I found anything was very comfortable. They fed the live in the state and then build a cabin to admire, but perhaps she will imtill his white hair looked fluffy and called "squatting," and people some- her."

When the London mail stopped in dress was all velvet and satin and blazdress was all velvet and satin and blazdress was all velvet and satin and blazdress. credulous. But they had not minded. fed him with the best they had. His father, in his gratitude, offered Marcried on parting with his kind friends and Margery cried, too.

"I prithee, pretty Margery, do not

And she promised she never would and gave him a sprig of rosemary out of her garden to wear for a break-not. The villagers were greatly mortified always maintained that her not havstranger the second time was the reabutter, and the schoolmaster gave his poetical abstraction for an excuse. Mine host of the "Boar's Head" fairly tore his hair and flung the pewter porringer which he had thrown after the stranger and his dog into the well. for the oldest woman to put her spectacles on and try the buttercup test. Then, if she said they loved butter and were Lindsays. they were taken in and entertanied royally. She generally did say they loved butter - she was so time herself; so the village inn got to be a regular refuge for beggars, and they called it among themselves the "Beggar's Rest," instead of the "Boar's Head."

ding and hobbled up to the bridegroom fame. with a buttercup. "Thou beest a Lind- ONLY TWO SPECIES LEFT.

tressed. His wife had taken his poem ranged into Europe while Indian forms though it had been gone over with a ter. He's a Lindsay; all the Lindsays where Margery and her mother lived, hair on for the wedding, and he had temporary with the Stone-Age man. The skin of the hippopotamus is two making a present of it to the young

couple. However, he wrote another on the wedding, of which one verse is still extant, and we will give it:

When Lindsay wedded Margery, Merrily piped the pipers all; The bride, the village pride was she, The groom, a gay gallant was he, When Lindsay wedded Margery, Merrily piped the pipers all." (Copyright, 1885, by D. Lothrop & Co.)

Solomon Gompers, father of Samuel, president of the American Federation of Labor, lives in Roxbury, Mass. He is 78 years old and has been totally blind for nine years. He was born in looking in modestly and wishfully, prince.

Some refreshment ready for him he London, where he joined a trade union margery's mother arose at once from When Margery and the other chil-told his pitiful story.

In 1849.

## 'Step-Mother Joe," or the Boy of the Cave and the Woods.

CHAPTER I.

had been a mechanic in a factory at Parkersburg, but had been obliged to surrender his place on account of his health. He was not a strong man, and he knew very little about farming, and so it came about that he was a poor

The son Joseph, who was always called Joe, had been taught at home and had attended a country school for three years before our story opens, and at the age of 10 he was of considerable assistance on the farm and a willing worker. The death of the mother was a sad blow to both husband and son. The farm was situated a mile from the nearest neighbor, and during the next year the two saw many lonely hours. Few travelers came that way, and sometimes a whole week passed without their catching sight of any one. Joe had reached the age of 11 when

had journeyed to London, with their about great changes in his life. One she met two of her little mates—Rosa"We shall never see him again," said skirts closely behind her and hobbled coach-and-four. Business having deand stopped at the coach and stopped at the coa ticipated, and fearing his lady might be mules were hitched to the wagon and uneasy, he had sent his son home in advance, in the coach, with his lackeys five children with her. The wagon conafter her, "try me with the butter- and attendants. Everything had sold after her, "try me with the butter- and attendants. Everything had sold after her, "try me with the butter- and attendants. Everything had sold after her, "try me with the butter- and attendants. Everything had sold after her, "try me with the butter- and attendants. Everything had sold after her, "try me with the butter- and attendants. Everything had sold after her, "try me with the butter- and attendants. Everything had sold after her, "try me with the butter- and attendants. Everything had sold after her, "try me with the butter- and attendants. Everything had sold after her, "try me with the butter- and attendants. Everything had sold after her, "try me with the butter- and attendants. Everything had sold after her, "try me with the butter- and attendants. Everything had sold after her, "try me with the butter- and attendants. Everything had sold after her, "try me with the butter- and attendants. Everything had sold after her, "try me with the butter- and attendants. Everything had sold after her, "try me with the butter- and attendants. Everything had sold attendants. Everything had sold attendants. Everything had sold attendants. Everything had sold attendants at the sold attendants at the sold attendants. In the sold attendants at the sold attendants at the sold attendants at the sold attendants at the sold attendants. Everything had been attended in a sold attendant at the sold attendants Some miles beyond they had been at- and evidently of bad temper, and the doorsteps, the father said: tacked by highwaymen and robbed children were ragged and without man- "Well, Joe, we have some new neigh-

tacked by highwaymen and robbed ners. Both Mr. Brayton and Joe were bors, and I can't say that I like them. are useful in distributing oxygen to prisoners or fled. The thieves had at the gate as the wagon drove up, and I guess you don't, either." prisoners or fied. The theves had they at once saw that it was some "I wish they hadn't come," replied ably a factor in enabling the creature Joe. The woman asked if she could get "I don't mean to let them bother us. dinner for herself and children and feed If the children come here too often and cretion which gives to the animal that Margery and her mother did at they cretion which gives to the animal that could to comfort him. They prepared for the mules, and when told that she are too rough, I shall send them home. peculiar reddish appearance which it could to comfort him. They prepared some broth for him and opened a bot- could she prepared for a stop. She in- They are very wild and rough. Every has just after leaving the water. It is

gery's mother rich rewards, but she est boy, whose name was Zeph, wanted father to help bring them up, and that varying in number from six to twenty would take nothing. The little boy to fight Joe. They ran all over the is why they act as they do. They are or thirty. They can equal in speed in house and barn and garden, whooping good at heart, but they want a strong the water a native canoe, and many is and yelling and grabbing at whatever hand. If I ever marry again it will be the canoe which they have overturned they fancied, and had not Mr. Brayton on account of the children." picked up a club and threatened them | She went about the house straighten- most formidable and dangerous creawith a beating his house would have ing things up and telling Mr. Brayton tures, being easily able to sever a man soon been turned inside out.

son of her not seeing that he loved had to make two or three trips to bring father for a second husband. knew that he should never like any of any time, and where could he go?" them. He had many times wished there

was a boy of his own age near by, but Henry Brayton had been a small it was easy to see that he would get farmer under the shadow of the moun-tains in West Virginia for 5 years tains in West Virginia for 5 years was even meaner than his brother when his wife died. He was left with Zeph. The two of them managed to only one child, a boy 10 years old, give Joe many a sly kick during the above the surface of the water. These whose name was Joseph. Mr. Brayton, afternoon, and the girls made up faces nostrils are so flexible that when under



some broth for him and opened a both formed Mr. Brayton that she was a one of them ought to have at least five this peculiarity which has given to it the of cowslip wine. Margery's mother widow from Maryland and looking for good whippings a day. What do you the name of "blood-sweating behered the company of the name of blood-sweating behered the company of the name of blood-sweating behered the company of the name of the name of the company of the name of the company of the name of the name of the company of the name of the company of the name of the name of the company of the name of the name

When the London mail stopped in the village the next day they sent the village the next day they sent a message to Lord Lindsay, and in the made a sudden change in herself. highway, and a minute later the five a message to Lord Lindsay, and in She made a sudden change in herself, highway, and a minute later the live precipitous cliffs with incredible raa message to Lord Linusay, data as message to Lord Linusay, data a

that he ought to marry again, and in half. They seem unable to tolerate There was an old cabin a mile away when supper time came she prepared the sight of anything to which they are that had stood empty for two years, the meal and ate with them. The not accustomed, and they will charge when they discovered the mistake they and hither the family, which was children did not appear in sight, but ferociously upon horse, man or porcuhad made. However, the ordest woman named Henderson, proceeded after din- Joe knew that some of them were hid- pine. The females are of more amighle ner. Mr. Brayton and Joe went along den in the bushes nearby. Young as disposition-except, of course, when ing spectacles on when she met the to help make repairs to the cabin. They he was, he could understand that the there is a baby "hippo" to be defended had all the work to do alone. Joe also widow was trying to capture his And well it is that the mothers take

an even number of toes, while in the foot each toe is supported by a distinct and complete bone instead of all by a single bone, such as the cannon-bone so characteristic of the ruminants. In fact, the hippopotamus is a member of the great group from which came the

The hippopotamus is wonderfully fitted for his aquatic life. The eyes and

water they can be tightly closed, an arrangement which we human beings very much envy. One authority states that the hippopotamus can remain as much as ten minutes under water without coming to the surface to breathe; although as a general thing he rises to the top for air about once in every two minutes, After a prolonged submersion he comes up spouting like a whale, and exhaling the air from his lungs with a great snort. When, in the presence of danger, the animal wishes to be very cautious, he can bring his nostrils only to the surface, and, in an almost imperceptible space of time, can take in sufficient air to enable him to again disappear wholly from view. In regions where he has been very much hunted he is rarely to be seen above the water, although in inaccessible portions of the interior of Africa, where man is seldom adventurous enough to make his way, the hippopotamus basks in the sun or sleeps peacefully under shady trees.

The hippopotamus is, of course, an expert swimmer, but with his broad four-toed feet he can walk along the muddy bottoms of streams, finding his great tusks excellent tools with which he likes to feed. The blood of this anithe tissues of the body, this being probto remain so long under water.

imoth."

ACTIVITY ON LAND.

One would infer from the great size, forlorn little dog, too, and washed him and live there until driven off. This is prove. We must not be too hard on the short legs, and the generally uncouth appearance of the hippopotamus, times occupy lands belonging to an-oher for many years. When she learn-father were out of bed, they heard the on land. This is, however, a great mis-

ing with jewels. How the villagers stared. They had flatly refused to believe that this last little stranger was the first one, and had made great fun of Margery and her mother for being so had given them a taste of a stout the vicinity of farm lands they often more like wild animals than children, and it was easy to see that they were times when their river dries up the pallet stuffed with down and a pillow stuffed with rose leaves to sleep on and The males are the respect for their mother, going to become a plague. In the afhippopotami will travel a night and ternoon Mrs. Henderson came over to a day's journey in their search for make excuses. The mules had scarcely been un- "You see," she said to Mr. Brayton, into salt water. In the water they are hitched from the wagon when the old- "my poor dear children have had no frequently seen in schools or groups, in sheer wantonness. The males are such good care of the young ones, for vegetables and provisions. He had The idea made him both frightened the males are not at all well disposed taken a great aversion to the woman and indignant. If such a thing came toward their offspring. A band of hipand her children at first sight, and he to pass, he could not live at home for popotami are sometimes seen playing about in the water, as folly and as graceful as a school of porpoises, the females often carrying astride on their backs A NOCTURNAL ANIMAL.

The hippopotamus is decidedly a noc-

## After that he was very careful how he turned away strangers, because of THE HIPPOPOTAMUS AND HIS WAY to the surface that the young ones may fill their lungs with air.

COUTH BEAST DESCRIBED.

afraid of making a mistake the second Only Two Species Survive - Two-Inch Skin and Primitive Toes-At Home Ashore or Afloat.

As for Margery, she grew up to be One of the strangest and crudest of which is almost, if not quite, extinct. is the crocodile, although both these As for Margery, she grew up to be the strangest and crudest of the pride of the village, and in time creatures is the hippopotamus, of which belongs the specimen in the zoological seldom engage in battle. Lord Lindsay's son, who had always a specimen is now for the first time park, is huge and uncouth of body, kept the sprig of rosemary, came and married her. They had a beautiful wedding; all the villagers were invited; the bridegroom did not cherish with the spring of the spring time park, is huge and uncouth of body, and uncouth of body, on exhibition in the New York Zoo- with a great cavernous mouth and a logical Park. Most primitive of all the square muzzle, its large body being schedules, while freight trains are beany resentment. They danced on the from which the ruminants are supposed stands about four feet at the shouldfor them. The bride wore a white damask petticoat worked with pink of especial interest to the evolutionist; in length, with an average weight of

shoulders, his sweet face had an exwish to appear surprised, so she went he met the schoolmaster, who had his pression at once gentle and noble, and on the way, new poem in a great roll in his hand.

Thou lovest butter, and the present time the hippopotaor to say she had met him on the way, new poem in a great roll in his hand.

The highest material and knew who he was
"What little varabond is this?" mutor to say she had met him on the way.

What little varabond is this?" mutor to say she had met him on the way.

What little varabond is this?" mutor to say she had met him on the way. I was nurse in the family a hundred fossils show that it quite recently in- do not fail to leave their trace in the habited Madagascar, and that further vegetation growing along the river As for the schoolmaster, he was dis-back the still existing African species banks, the ground often looking as

just discovered it. He had calculated on Out of a great number of species which inches thick, and is so tough and strong

THE "HIPPO'S" TOES. 'hippo" is the most primitive of the

NATURAL HABITS OF THE UN- once spread widely over the Old World turnal animal. It is at night that he only two have lived to see the present goes to pasturage, sometimes travelday. Palaeontology does not show ing as far as nine miles into the inthat at any time the hippopotamus in- terior, in his search for food, and rehabited the New World.

turning at dawn to the water, where Between the two existing species most of the long hot days are spent. there is the greatest difference, one being the common hippopotamus, which of reeds along the rivers, where he can is the only kind to be seen in zoologi- hide and sleep in safety. Besides man, cal gardens, and the other the pigmy, the chief enemy of the hippopotamus

to have sprung, the hippopotamus is er and measures fourteen to fifteen feet damask petticoat worked with pink roses, her pink satin short gown was looped up with garlands of them, and she wore a wreath of roses on her head.

Or especial interest to the evolutionist; in length, with an average weight of extraordinary is its appearance that three tons; the tusks are of large size, sometimes measuring thirty to thirty-to the casual visitor; while to the round eyed imaginative child it is the perinches in circumference, and weighing the same that the perinches in circumference, and weighing the perinches in circumference and perinches in circumference. The oldest woman came to the wed-sonification of the "Beast" of fairy-land seventeen and a half pounds. These tusks were at one time very much used by dentists in the making of false teeth.

> that it is largely used in the making of shields, helmets, whips, and other articles. In ridiculous contrast to the enormous body are its small pointed ears and its tiny flat tail. Except for the stout bristles on face, neck, and tail the skin is bare and smooth. Each leg has four almost equally well developed toes, all of which rest on the ground, showing an even more primitive condition than that found in swine, to which the hippopotamus is closely related; for in pigs the lateral pair of hoofs are considerably smaller than the middle pair, and when their owner is walking on a hard surface they do not touch the ground.

Thus in the matter of toes our

snows in Winter. So perhaps it will today. Or- it may rain tomorrow-It's really hard \_ to say!\_



The Little Stranger.

were in full sight of the coach-an-stiffly. them caused them to draw up on one hath supped with us." is dress was of the richest material. and knew who he was.

After he had passed by, the three little girls looked at each other. "Oh!" cried Rosamond, "did you see

his bat and feather?" white dog!" cried Barbara. But Mar-gery said nothing. In her heart she

Then she went on to the well with stranger was a Lindsay, before she so that she let her pinafore full of her pitcher, and Rosamond and Barbara went to bed that night. And he really roses slip, and the flowers all fell out on went home, telling everyone they met was a Lindsay, too, though it was sing- the ground. Then she dropped an about the beautiful little stranger. was a Linusay, too, though it was sing-ular how the oldest woman divined it humble courtesy, and her mother rose Margery, after she had filled her with a buttercup. pitcher, went home also; and was be- The pretty child had straightway not recognized her guest as soon as ginning to talk about the stranger to driven off in his coach-and-four as Margery. her mother, when a shadow fell across soon as he had left Margery's mother's the floor from the doorway. Margery cottage; he had only stopped to have some defect in the wheels remedied.

"Ah, you remember me," he said be-

"There he is now!" cried she in a But there had been time enough for a twixt smiles and tears.

looking in modestly and wishfully. prince.

Margery's eyes grew large, too, and twenty years old, and, by reason of her very curious, so she turned around and

wonder. It was a most beautiful little behind her iron-bowed spectacles. Then she hobbled away faster than

woman, with a nod of her white-capped "He hath driven a fine metaphor out of head. "I tried him wi' a buttercup. I my head."

"And his lace vandyke, and the fluffy the family a hundred years ago." gery said nothing. In her heart she thought she had never seen anyone so faith in the oldest woman's opinion; kept on the shelf.

and so did all the other villagers. She when Margery heard the gate click the shelf of the shelf. told a good many people how the little and, turning, saw the boy, she started

she turned about with her empty great age, was considered very wise. held a buttercup underneath the boy's pitcher and followed her friends. They "Have you seen the stranger?" asked dirty chin. had almost reached the tavern, and she in her piping voice, seating herself "Bah," said the oldest woman. "A

Lindsay indeed! Butter hath no charm four, when someone coming toward "Yes," replied Margery's mother. "He for thee, and the Lindsays all loved it. I know, for I was nurse in the side of the way and stare with new The oldest woman twinkled her eyes family a hundred years ago."

boy. His golden curls hung to his "Lawks!" said she But she did not ever and the poor boy kept on. Then shoulders, his sweet face had an ex- wish to appear surprised, so she went he met the schoolmaster, who had his "What little vagabond is this?" mut-He led a little flossy white dog by a "He's a Lindsay," said the oldest tered he, gazing at him with disgust.

> held it under his chin, and he loves but- When the boy reached the cottage ning and the little girl was picking

and courtesied also, though she had

The pretty boy stood there indeed, popular estimation, a neally fairy while Margery and her mother got

