

THE SUNBEAM

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THE ARGUS.

This beautiful bird is the Argus Pheasant, and is found in Siam, and other Indian Islands. There are no feathers on the sides of the neck and head; but the bird has elegant plumage and his tail feathers are long; the two middle measuring about four feet. The wing feathers are decorated with a great many spots that look like eyes. His cry is plaintive and not loud. The Peacock belongs to the same family of birds; and spots on their wings make a strong resemblance between the Argus and the Peacock.

GROWING TROUBLE.

Once upon a time there was a man and a woman who planned to go and spend the day at the house of a friend some distance away from their own. On a pleasant morning they started out to make the visit, but they had not gone far when the woman remembered the large bridge they had to cross. It was very old and was not to be very safe, and she immediately began to worry her husband. "What shall we do about the bridge?" she said to her husband. "I shall not dare to go over it, and I can't get across the river any other way." "I forgot that bridge," said the man, "I forgot that bridge is a bad place. Suppose it should break down, and we should fall into the water and be drowned?"



THE ARGUS.

would become of any of us, for I couldn't work, and we should all starve to death."

So they went on worrying and worrying till they got to the bridge, when, lo and behold! they saw that since they had been there last a new bridge had been built, and they crossed over in perfect safety, and found that they might have spared themselves all the anxiety they had along their journey.

Now, that is just what the proverb means. Never waste your time worrying on what you think may possibly be going to happen. Do not think, "Oh! suppose it should rain to-morrow so that I can't go out," or "What shall I do if I have a headache the day of our visit to grandpa's"—*Exchange*

WHERE DO THEY COME FROM?

Why are the toads so plentiful after a thunder-shower? All my life long no one has been able to answer that question. Why, after a heavy shower, and in the midst of it, do such multitudes of toads, especially little ones, hop about the gravel walk? For many years I believed they rained down, and I suppose some think so still. I asked an explanation of this of a thoughtful woman. Her reply was that toads came out during the shower to get water. However, this is not the fact. I have discovered that they come not to get water. I deluged a flower bed the other

"Or even," said his wife, "suppose you should step on a rotten plank and break your leg, what would become of me and the baby?"

"I don't know," said the man, "what

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