- "Dear Turtle," chirped the Katydid, "what makes you walk so slow?" (They're sadly ungrammatical, are Katydids, you know.)
- "Oh, Katydid." the Turtle cried, "why don't you change your tune? You sing the same old silly wrangle, morn-ing, night, and noon."
- "Walk slowly?" asked the Turtle. "Katy, Nature made me so. And there's no place to which I wish espe-cially to go."
- "Hing other songs?" asked Katy. "Why, 't was Nature made me so.
  I cannot sing another; it's the only song I know.
- So, both concluding Nature knew just what she meant to do, The Tartle went on crawling; Knty chirped the song she knew.
- -Harry Rabinson, in March St. Nicholas.

#### POMPEH.

We went to Pompeii the day before yesterday. It took us two hours to get there and three hours to look it all over. It was very interesting. Of course I do not romember everything. First, we went into the museum. There were (in the first room) some old locks and keys, a big iron box and some bread. In the second room were 7 or 6 skeletons; a dog, a little boy, some women and some men. The dog was all twisted up as if in great agony. The color of them was a dirty whitish brown. On the sides of the room were some big water jugs. Then we went in through the gate to Pompeii. The houses had no roofs and no windows, the light coming in from the door. I suppose once they had roofs had been always and follows: but now they have all fallen to pieces. First we went to the big room where the king sat and sentenced the people. Parts of the pillars were yet standing and between each one was a little basin cut out of stones. Up at the end of the room was the seat of the king. Near the seat were some stairs which led into a prison. We descended these stairs. It was a little room with two holes at the top through which the king told the poor creatures down there what he was going to do with them. This room (not the prison, but the room where the king sat) was very long and had about twenty pil- one end fastened to his wrist. A gurgi- frequent in fiction than the moon, still, lars in it. They were all made of marble; ing sound, as of harrying water on the when it does get there it ought to be pronot very clean and bright now, but then other side of the pool, came to him, and when it was new it must have been bean he watched and listened to make out the tiful. We saw some little wine shops cause. Presently he saw two round and oil shops. The sign of the oil shops black heads disappear as if they had was cut in the stone outside. The sign gone through the place whence the was two men carrying a big jar of oil be-sound came, and then four or or five tween them on a stick which they car other heads of seals belbed up, as if they tween them on a stick which they care other heads of seals bobbed up, as if they bow?" Very few minutes later we hear ried on the shoulder. The wine shops had entered the little lake from that the building was in total darkness, at did not have any sign I think. These point. He knew then that it must be wine and oil shops were just alike. At a passage leading to the sea, one end of the room was a long marble.

But while the gargling sound of the table with five round holes at the top. I went to see what the holes were and saw a great big jug sunk in the earth reaching up to the holes. In the jugs they put the oil and wine which they sold. The streets were quite narrow; but I think the Bazars were still narrower which we saw in Cairo. There were some beautiful mosaic fountains with little bits of steps leading up to them for the water to fall down on. After looking at some ruins we entered the Forum which had six streets leading into it. They could block the streets up so riders

and children with bread and other things ADVENTURES OF A HARE.

and carriages could not go through if they wanted to. We ate our bush in the garden of Diomede and in his cellar

were found the bones of eighteen women

The following very remarkable adventures of a hare, which we find related in the sober Paris Univers, are worth giving, especially as the journal quoted vouches upon it. It was just large enough to bear for the absolute truth of the story. A gentleman living at Hirsen, in the Deexpedition and in full chase after a bare him into the water. It was almost as dark which he perceived scudding across a night in the pool, and Oscar could see common. Sudden he lost sight of the time glowering eyes of the bear lookanimal in a very unaccountable way. In the mystery, however, being cleared up not come into the pool. It turned away later on by some other persons who were able to furnish the sequel to the opening chapter of the story. The hare, in its chapter of the story. The hare, in its headlong career, eaught sight of a carriage which was going at a slow place along the road skirting the plain. He jumped into the conveyance unperceived by the driver, and lay down in a basket basida a defunct member of his species.

Identify the did not see the call to go to the top again and sprang into the water, climbing hastily by the easiest way to the fleor of the cavern. To his utter dismay he saw the great brute lying on the ice close to the cave's mouth!

Usur after hour passed, until Oscar which had just been given to the occu-pant of the vehicle by a sporting ac-quaintance. The owner of the dead hare noon, for the sun shone yellow on the was very naturally much astonished to ice beyond the mouth of the cavern. find a live one in the same basket when Still his savage jailer made no move; he reached home; but before he had still Oscar sat, not moving from the lump time to think how it come there the ter- of ice, thinking of the terror of Hilda at rified hare made its escape and was soon his long absence. Still another hour out of sight. A few hours afterwards he was again heard of. He had entered a outside began to turn to gray, for the sun was again heard of. He had entered a outside began to turn to gray, for the sun neighbor's garden, found his way into the was below the hills that sheltered Uperkitchen and, thrown quite out of his navik. reckoning by his strange surroundings, had taken shelter in a huge stewpan conhad taken shelter in a large stewpan containing some potatoes and a small quantity of water. Here he remained unnoticed; but in course of time the pan was taken up and placed on the fire, the lid having been first put on without the servant remarking that there was anything under the vegetables in it. A few minutes later she was startled to a most extraordinary noise proceed. by a most extraordinary noise proceed terrible dungeon. ing from the pan, in which the poor hare was undergoing a culinary operation lit-tle to his taste; and before she could summon enough courage to ascertain what was in it the lid was thrown off and the frightened hare leaped out, bounding away for fresh quarters, which happened to be the cellar. Endeavors were made by the assembled household to capture the "grosse-bete," which the servant de-clared was of a "kind she had never seen before;" but once again the hare succceded in effecting his escape, only allowing those who caught sight of him time enough to ascertain that that mysterious had seen the bear at the mouth of the than a hare entertaining a very natural dislike to be coked alive.

A POLAR BEAR FOR A JAILER.

On the western coast of Greenland is a settlement called Upernaxik. It is peopled partly by Eskimos and partly by Danes. In this settlement dwelt a Danish clergymen, Olaf Neilson by name, with a son and a daughter-Oscar, eighteen years old, and Hilda six-

In early summer Oscar frequently went hunting walrus and seal, with his Propose your own health at the neargun or spear. It is well known that this est pump.

cold, cheerless coast is never without ice-bergs. One June an iceberg thus drifted straight to the mouth of the harbor of Upernavix. There it grounded, and the in-shore wind pressed it with great force up into the jaws of the harbor. The sun honeycombed it and left huge dark caves in many parts close to the water's edge, and into these caverns the sea went booming with a great sound. Oscar and Hilds went off in their kayak to see it; and they noticed that the quiet pools which had formed in the caves were the resort of seal and walruses during part of the day.

"I shall have some good spearing there," said Oscar, as they turned their kayak toward home. So he ground his spear sharp, and oiled the barbs at the point, which was shaped like an arrow; hent a new line to the handle, and the next day set out alone in the kayak.

Meanwhile Hilda went up the valley for
the goats. Her parting words to her
brother were to be careful and to keep watch for bears, as this was a favorite haunt of the fierce polar bear. Pulling his kayak up on the rocks, Os-

car proceeded out to the berg, the base of which was not less than two acres in area, and from it rose to a considerable height two columns of dark-blue ice somewhat resembling towers in form. One of these was honeycombed at the base, and through the sides of the low flat mass upon which the tower rested were various openings, so that when an ocean swell came rolling in, it went through these perforations with a piping sound. He decided that he would enter the main cave at the base of the ice tower

of line upon his shoulder and the spear in his hand, he entered the dim, cold cave. The open space, Oscar told me, was about forty feet square, and in the centre of it, dipping eight or ten feet below the floor of the passage-way, was a deep pool of water covering about half the area of the floor of the cave. Into this a large, square block of ice had fallen from the roof. from the roof.

But while the gargling sound of the water came to him from the pool, he heard a slighter and different moise coming from the mouth of the cave by which he had entered. Turning, he saw, to his unspeakable horror, a huge polar bear, the games. Nor is it really practicable teast had seen him, and was hulking along toward him. Oscar turned and faced it for a moment—but what could twilight in mid-November, till near he do with his spear against such an ashe do with his spear against such an assailant? The spear could never go through that shaggy coat and thick hide. through that shaggy coat and trick that the same along! Weteran may never have joined in the stretched over the ice as it came along! game, and so failed to realize how not and balls become invisible before the same way. ing lower, its muzzle thrust out, and itclaws stretching farther than ever from its feet.

There was only one course. Oscar spranged into the icy water, and in three or four strokes was close to the ace-cube. His spear and coil of rope were upon his upon it. It was just large enough to bear their characters "tap thermometers," to his weight; but he was obliged to stand see if they are rising, or who make the very still on the middle of it to prevent it from heeling to one side and sliding register of two hundred degrees Fahren.

Mantel Mirrors, Mouldings, Picture Frames not come into the pool. It turned away from the brink, and for two hours—two hours of wet, and cold, and terror-Oscar

Hour after hour passed, until Oscar knew that it must be late in the after-

Another half-hour of terror passed, and then Oscar saw the bear spring to its feet, thrust out its head, and make

What was Oscar's amazement present ly to see the seal stand up, throw back the fur from its head and shoulders, and turn into a girl !-- yes, into his own dear sister Hilda!

She shouted aloud and waved her handkerchief. The bear, evidently disconcerted, turned, ran lumberingly up a gulch, and disappeared into a tangle of

ground-tirs.
When the brother and sister met their joy was so great that neither could speak a word. Hilda, horrowing another kayak, had come to look for Oscar, and "grosse-bete" was nothing more uncanny cave. At once suspecting the cause of her brother's absence, she went home, got the skin, and personated a seal, with the complete success I have recorde l.—

> Little girl timidly: "Please Mr. Storekeeper, I want to get some shoe strings. Storekeeper: How long do you want them? Little girl: I want them to keep, sir, if you please.

Authors' Blunders Apart from natural objects of any description, what an abyss of blunders do the exacting rules of grammar plunge us into. "Neither" and "nor," for instance. How absolutely uncontrollable some pens find these little words, and what a iresome trick they have of taking upon themselves pluralizing properties to which they have no right. Continually we hear "that neither Ida nor Gerald were able to speak for some minutes."
Well, then, we suppose both of them was silent. One needs to come to close quarters with these Will-o'-the-wispish parts of speech. They are almost as terrible to deal with as those perplexing verbs to "lay" and to "lie." Over these, authors, otherwise irreproachable, frequently trip, while the great host of minor writers appear to give up wrestling with them, for we get a heroine who had "laid" on the sofa an hour; and a hero who "lies" his tired head; or another who cries out, "let that glove key, sir," in nearly every book we open. As for past participles and past tenses, we give up noticing their little vagaries, so constant at the constant of the constant is the stream of characters who "rung for their maid, and drunk the water hastily after having sang the song—And so forth! But one of the common est stumbling-blocks in fiction is that much-courted and frightfully mismanaged orb, the moon. Considering how useful this luminary is for love scenes. meditations, murders, etc., the way in which people who introduce it persist in ignoring its natural movements is really most ungrateful. Thus we are frequently confronted with "day-old silver Moving along carefully, with the coil of line upon his shoulder and the spear sun has set? New moons are continualwest, just as the situation requires them. How fortunate its presence was will soon appear.

Oscar cronched down on the cold gray ice, his spear grasped in his hand, and shelf—"Whitaker!" Another meteorohis coil of rope lying beside him with logical snare is the rainbow. Far less perly placed. What was that indy thinking of, who, having put her heroine in a church towards the close of a showery day, made her gaze out of a window in a western (!) apse, " and behold in the heavens before her a brilliant many-hued which we are not surprised. After achieving that phenomenal effort in the west, Nature must have wanted repose. Sport of all kinds is dangerous ground to: the uninitiated. Even tennis is full of traps. No young man should say to his pretty partner, "A love set then to us," forty-five, and they were playing on a grass court! But that writer being twilight is even faint. In the same way writers little acquainted with the Field have been known to send a house party fox-hunting in July; others send them cub-hunting in February; some make their gentlemen bring home big bags of pheasants in April; others go hare-hunting late in March. On a par with these are the incurtious folks who make

> Hood's Sarsaparilla is on the flood tide of popularity, which position it has reached by its own intrinsic, undoubted merit.

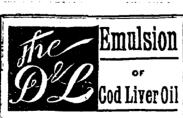
heit in the shade, or who send visitors to

the Academy in September or to the Monday populars in May, or make their limets lay "sky-blue eggs.—London Sa-

When a young man sits in the parlor talking nonsense to his sweetheart—that's capital. But when he has to stay in of evenings after they're marriedthat's labor.

The best throw upon the dice is to throw them away.

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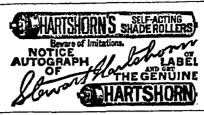
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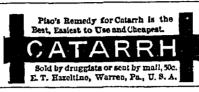
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This competition will be open to pupils of schools of the Dominion other than those in Universities and finishing

The prizes will be given for the best original story ou some subject relating to the religious, domestic or general history of Canada, early settlements, pionear efforts, mission work, etc. As far as a control of the competitors, must confine practicable competitors must confine themselves to incidents connected with their own locality, but this is not absolutely compulsory.

Competitors need not confine themselves to the literal truth, but they may indulge in some romantic embellishment of their stories so long as they are based upon local, general or historical fact.

# Rules for Competitors:

The stories must be submitted in the bandwriting of the competitor. They must not exceed two thousand

Each MS, must be enclosed in a blank sheet of paper of the same size as that on which the story is written, half faolscap size; endorsed with the title of the story; that of the writer; his or her school; county or city; teacher's name and address, and an endorsement by the

teacher certifying that the story is in the handwriting of the pupil. Manuscripts must only be written on one side of the paper.

All Stories for competition must be mailed not later than May 1st, 1891, after which the competition closes.

The Stories will be submitted to competent judges, who will award the prizes. The names of these judges will be announced later on.

Blank forms for intending Competitors, and all other imformation regarding our Prize Competition, can be had by applying at the Office, 761 Craig Street.

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