STRIKE THEOUGH THE KNOT.

strength I had;
In vain I hacked about the knot,
thew round the door;
And wearied, I laid down the

Just then, and old man pas

chanced to see my plight,
Cried out aloud, "Hold, hold, my boy, you have not tried aright;
This hacking splinters will not gain the object you have sought,
But split it through the knot, my boy, directly through the knot."

I tried once more, and on the

hard to make it twain;
Once, twice, thrice, and the stick was
I dropped my axe again;
"And now," quoth he, "By this you see
how it is in life,
All the way through you'll find hard is
and sorrow care and strife.

"And should you only hack at the make but sorry speed; But If you strike them manfully y

The lives of great men always lead many a troubled way,

And would you welk therein, my

Thus he spoke, and ever since I've f words so true, That I will give as I received,

And if you heed it, you will find, as other

The wisest plan, and surest way, is striking through the knot.

THE LITTIE LADY.

I was stopping at the Hotel Windsor, at Rue de Rivoli, Paris. One morning I was smoking

eolonade, when a tall, elegantly dressed gentleman asked permission to light his eigar by mine. I saw at once that he was a Erenchman, although his "Eng-lish" was nearly perfect.

"Have you heard the news?" he in-

"Is it possible! Why, all Paris is alive with it at this moment."
"What has happined?"
"The Countess de Marville, the fairest

of the fair, was found murdered in her bed last night, her bureau broken open and ten thousand francs missing from it.

It was terrible. The brute who did the eed effected his entrance through the window of her chamber, near which, unfortunately, was a tall tree planted by the distinguished grandfather of the Countess years age. Little did he imagine what a terrible use would be made

Afterwards I heard from others accounts of the late tragedy.

Among the details of the affair was one which peculiarly impressed me—and which my first informant had not spoken of—an oversight which surprised me, as the occurrence he had not mentioned was of that kind which would be most

mark from a ring he wore—the impression of a chariot wheel with a star in the

"This," said my latest informant, "may lead to the discovery of the murderer. Jean Mosqueau is already visiting the jewellers' shops to find out from which and by whom a ring with a chariot wheel device was purchased."

"Who is Jean Mosqueau?"

"Who, Mosqueau, our famous detective? Although his courage is well known, you would not, to look at his

he could fight a gnat!"

A week later I was aboard the steam-

er, bound from Calais to Dover.

Among the passengers I beheld one whose face looked familiar to me. I was not long in recognizing this person as the same I had seen in front of the Hotel

Windsor, and who had first informed me of the murder of the Countess. He was certainly a very handsome man, although his conceited air was a-

blot upon his good looks.

He moved languidly hither and thither, turning his brown eyes admiringly upon the pretty lady passengers, while stroking his whiskers with one white hand, upon

the middle finger of which was a superb diamond ring.

I am rather of a suspicious nature

which, combined with a lively imagina-tion, had often led me into singular errors. Now, a strange impulse moved me to advance and hold out my hand to the man whom I had involuntarily disliked from the first in order that I might have a chance to glance at his ring. Somehow the idea possessed me that I should discover a chariot wheel device upon the

ittering bauble! The stranger did not at first recognize me. He soon did, however, and frankly extended his left hand, which was no

the one containing the ring.

My brain fairly recled; the man's behavior was a confirmation of my sus-

aid, in a low, stern voice.

"Monsieur will please excuse me; my
ther arm is lame with the the rheuma-

He beheld me glance towards the half-idden ring, and I was sure I saw him

start and turn pale, at the same time looking much surprised. He, however, opened his right hand, as if perfectly willing for me to shake it if I chose to. Then I had a good look at the ring, and felt ashamed of my suspicions. The device was a common heart, which certainly bore no resemblance to a chariot wheel

An apology, smilingly received by the little lady, a remark about the weather on the part of the gentleman, and the two were soon conversing with animation: Meanwhile the blushing check and bright eyes of the fair one seemed to betoken that she was well pleased with her comthan ever.

"I am afraid we shall have a ster she remarked, pointing towards a dark cloud upon which the captain was gazing

a red eigar-case from his pocket and asked his companion if she objected to a smoke. Then he started, and quickly returning the red one to his pocket put forth another of a blue color.

'llow many cigars do you smoke a 'day;'' inquired the lady, evidently amused at the sight of two cases.

The other colored, and it struck me that his voice slightly faltered and his hand trembled, as he made some laugh-

upon us. We were midway in the hannel, so that we caught the full force of the sea and gale. Both were terrific. The sea swept the boat, which lay so far over that her machinery was soon damaged so that it would not work. wind screamed like a demon, threw her

over still farther.

Suddenly we observed the sailors endeavoring to loosen a long boat on the davits at the stern. Meanwhile, there was an ominous grinding, smashing noise inder the counter. The truth could not

be concealed; we were sinking.
The ladies screamed; the handsome passenger lost his self-possession, and ran hither and thither. The cool behavior of the little lady in

black contrasted strangely with the agi-There she stood calm and immovable her brightsteel-blue eyes fixed upon the handsome stranger, of whom she did not lose sight of for a moment.

"Keep quiet, ladies and gentlemen!" sang out the captain—"Keep quiet, and don't crowd around the boat so! There will be room in it for you all; and, our assistance," pointing to a vessel how-ling towards us before the wind.

There was, however, a panie among could harm a woman thus in cold blood is more than I can imagine."

"Ah, monsiour, if you had ever seen the Countess you would wonder more, she was beautiful—beautiful as an angel," he added, stroking his whiskers with an unmistakable air of vanity; "I knew her well."

"Indeed."

"Oh, yes. There are in Paris iew pobular women unknown to me."

His manner now was decidedly conceited, and I felt disgusted. My coldness evidently repelled him, for he soon left me.

Afterwards I heard from others are counts of the late tracedy.

"Indeed tracedy men before the lady in black or I could enter it. The handsome passenger, losing his balance. fell over the gunwale, and being unable to swim wildly threw up his arms.

I must acknowledge that I was so engrossed with the perilous situation of my fair companion and myself—now the only two left aboard the steamer—that I paid little attention to the drowning man.

The moment the boat was laburdled, among them the handsome passenger.

A huge sea coming along, roaring like the fifteen or twenty men behind her were talking about her. Most of what they said is in the Prayer Book, but not in quite the same order. By-and-by, however, she remembered she wanted to go to Newark and the boat was just starting, so she had to run and so did the only two left aboard the steamer—that I paid little attention to the drowning man.

The steamer was in fact going down fast—was already nearly engulfed in the

apt to strike the fancy.

Upon the throat of the Countess the murderer, in throttling her, had left a some passenger. He caught it, when,

known, you would not, to look at his fair, delicate face and form, believe that

I was right. We were all taken aboard

stranger's good looks seemed to body else around the place, and then she lately suited the new shorter hour lately shorter hour lately suited the new shorter hour lately shorter hou

the differ land of woman was ever two graphes and the first point of the post of the land of woman was ever two graphes and the post of the land of th belonged, and when she got in the narrow | would that others should do to them, passageway leading to the boat, she had to stop and go through the whole performance again before she could tear off the bring out more sympathy and more mance again before she could tear off the coupon to give to the taker. Just then she saw a woman behind her whom she knew, and she couldn't wait another inconvenience, and with a greatly of inconvenience of their life. St. Petersburgh comes the news that the least possible amount of bedtime, thus while their life tions of the body areas the steam of the last meal is disposed denly and with unusual severity. From denly and with unusual severity. From denly and with unusual severity. From whose thoughts under all the Magvzine: "They may both grow multitudes can heartily within an hour of bedtime, thus while their life tions of the body areas the state of their lives are jevery more afather is

May control the control of the contr

looking, little thing, attired in black, kept directing furtive glauces at the handsome passenger. Finally she glided so close to him that in turning he brushed against her.

An apology, smilingly received by the looking, little thing, attired in black, kept directing furtive glauces at the for getting on the car at all. There was one of this kind of women went over to Newark the other day. She got down to the ferry about five minutes before the boat started, and of course she didn't the local started to be acting for or on behalf was and render nugatory all the efforts made to secure victory. A notion has got local started to secure victory. A notion has got local started to secure victory. A notion has got local started to secure victory. A notion has got local started to secure victory. A notion has got local started to secure victory. A notion has got local started to secure victory. A notion has got local started to secure victory. A notion has got local started to secure victory and secure victory and secure victory.

CORRUPT PRACTICES AT

ELECTIONS.

Our telegrams from various parts show that winter has set in rather sud-

GRAPES AS FOOD. Half of all ordinary diseases, says
Dr. Hall in his Journal of Health,
would be banished from civilized life,
and dyspepsia become almost unknown,
if everybody would eat but thrice a day
at regular times, and not an atom be-Men can live and work on grapes and bread. The peasantry of France, Spain, and Italy make a satisfying meal in this way, and of the wholesomeness of the diet there can be no doubt. Medical

GROWING OLD TOGETHER—Husbands and wives, and this is what Robert and wives, and this is what Robert of, usually ten o'clock at night. But there are, whose thoughts under all the there are the ther

filings to work much in that way. Iron is indeed indispensible to the health and the growth of plants, but the quantity they use is so small, being not

at regular times, and not an atom bebetween meals, the intervals being not
less than five hours, that being the time
required to digest a full meal and pass
it out of the stomach.

If a person eats between meals, the
process of digestion of the food already
in the stomach is arrested, the last plant-food by hay crops, or has got compacted and incipiently petrified by lack of tillage.

Douth, at any period of life before the ripest old age, is more or less un-natural. This seems plan to us that the Creator of man made him with the capacities for living until the machinery of his body is worn out with age, and when the art of life is understood per-fectly, and the physiological laws of nature are obeyed strictly, instances of death before the full term of human existence is fulfilled will be as rare as existence is fulfilled will be as rare as extreme old age is now. With our present imperfect knowledge of the art of life, and our disregard of the laws of health, we are compelled to witness the terrible fact that a large proportion of all the mortality of our race occurs with children of a tender age. It is the buds and blossoms that death tramples to plants escape; and if his shafts are aimed alike at all, they tell with greatest effect upon the little ones. And if his blows fall thickest and hardest upon the heart of the parent-the wounds in fleted there are most deep and lasting.— There is in all this checkered world no them set brush to form a partial shade for the cuttings; let them remain in position until about the twentieth or twenty-fifth of July, when, if a rainy day occurs, remove them entirely.

I have had the best of success with the most difficult kinds of cuttings, to propagate Norton's Virginia, Deleware, Cynthiana, Herman and others. In the old way of planting I usually lost about of while by my present plan, I save and while by my present plan, I save and get a good growth on ninety out of every hundred cuttings,—Rural World.

GROWING OLD TOGETHER—Husbands

most fruitful grapevines on cottages.

I have known this done to such excellent that the vines became models of both; and such a spirit of emulation for muscles, all of which are brought into requisition in the process of digestion. But no muscle can work the can work twice in a state of perfect repose for one third of its digestion. But no muscle can work twice in a state of propagate Norton's Virginia, Deleware, Cynthiana, Herman and others. In the old way of planting I usually lost about get a good growth on ninety out of every hundred cuttings, while by my present plan, I save and get a good growth on ninety out of every hundred cuttings.—Rural World.

GROWING OLD TOGETHER—Husbands

River Nova is frozen over. Canal navigation in New York is closed, and four for five hundred boats are reported frozen in between Schenactady and Buffalo.

And with this we have the forecast from the weather office of northerly winds and continuing cold weather.

Mr. Disraeli made a political speech at Glasgow on Friday. He predicts a conflict in Europe between the temporal and spiritual powers, fears anarchy as the result of it, and suspects treachery from Irish Home Rulers.

An amusing instance in the connection between carbon and theology is afforded by the case of a clergyman in Dundee, Scotland, who announced to his congregation that in consequence of his inability to afford coals from keeping jup his study fire he had discontinued in the content of the co