Young Folks.

------A BOY'S MOTHER.

My mother, she's so good to me Ef I was good as I could be, I couldn't be as good. No sir; Can't any boy be good as her!

She loves me when I'm glad or mad, She loves me when I'm good or bad, An', what's the funniest thing, she

She loves me when she punishes.

I don't like her to punish me. That don't hurt, but it hurts to see Her cry. Nen I cry, an nen. We both cry—an' be good again

She loves me when she cuts and sews My little coat and Sunday clothes, An when my pa comes home to tea She loves him 'most as much as me.

She laughs and tells him all I said An' grabs me up an' pats my head, An' I hug her an' hug my pa An' love him purt' nigh much' asma. James Whitcomb Riley.

THE WISH APPLE.

Jimmy Smith wasn't such a bad little boy, but he had a reputation. If with a black eye of a Saturday afternoon, his mother was sure that Jimmy had done it.

And yet Jimmy wasn't such a bad was the good little boy of the neigh- and woke up. borhood, and Jimmy was a master hustler at chores when he wanted to and he rubbed his eyes.

But he had a reputation and was just a plain boyish boy, who believed the garret stairs. in ghosts, and fairies and things.

This particular Saturday afternoon Jimmy wanted to "go to the swimmin" hole wid de gang," but misfortune had overtaken him in the shape of a bent pan which was found innocently reposing on the seat of Deacon Smith's fowls and pigs in the barnyard.

of breasts in that same barnyard after movement, off go the glasses smash the dried apples had made the ac- on the floor or more often the sidequaintance of the water from the walk. Of course, we opticians don't pump trough, and Jimmy chuckled as kick, for that very thing gives us a the thought came to him.

Any sport soon loses its zest to the prisoner, and the supply of dried apples showing an appreciable shrinkage, Jimmy thought it was time to quit. He flung himself on an old mattress under the eaves and banged his heels against the rafters overhead. 'Wish'd there wuz some fairies up

"You do, do you?" piped a thin little voice which seemed to come from the strings of dried apples over his head. "And what do you want with

Jimmy opened his eyes wide, and his mouth wider, and stared hard at

the strings of dried apples. "I thought you wanted a fairy," piped the thin voice. "Here I am, now

what do you want, boy?" 'Where are you?" said Jimmy, "I don't see nobody? Who be you?"

'I'm one of the dried apple fairies,' said the voice, "that's why my voice is so thin. It's us as makes the apples swell so when you mix 'em with When they are all swelled up our voices swell, too, and we step them up so." Still holding the glass so out and enjoy the fun. If is because that the springs stretched wide over so many of my friends enjoyment this afternoon in the barn until the upper points of the clips yard that I want to do something were directly under the eyebrows. for you."

"Ohl" said Jimmy. "What would you like most?" "Some apples, and ice cream and

"Hold, on! Wait a bit!" broke in thing at a time. Apples are right in line, but I don't know about the ice cream and the rest."

Why, I thought fairies could do anything," said Jimmy.

"So they can, so they can some of there are others who have their limitations. Speaking of ap ples, how do you like that one?"

Jimmy opened his eyes wider still when he saw a big rosy apple smiling at him from the edge of a box nea

'Is it good to eat?"

'Sure," said the fairy, and Jimmy had pounced on it and taken a big bite, all in a minute. It was so good another big monthful and then h stared hard. The bites filled up fast as he took them, and the app grew whole and rosy again.

"Wish when you bite," said the fairy. "Good-by, and god luck too yo Jimmy "Hallo, are you going?' cried the by

but no answer cam back. 'Gee! but this is a luffin good, ar

ple," and he smacked his lips and b

in the swimming hole with all his clothes on and the other boys throw ing mud at him.

'Gee!" said he, reaching for his apple which bobbed along on the water in front of him. Taking a big bite he wished himself on top of the straw

stack to dry in the sun. The straw stack was hot and before he stopped to think Jimmy said: "Wish this straw stack was on top of the north pole," Away they were whisked in an instant and Jimmy, nearly frozen and his teeth chattering, found himself looking down from

sun. Jimmy and a big old grandfather bear said: "Woughf! Woughf! I smell a have been added to those who depend sents an aspect of extraordinary ferhauchters." I smell a have been added to those who depend sents an aspect of extraordinary ferhauchters. bad boy who puts bent pints on Dea- for subsistence upon the handful of tility. At the present moment it is con Smith's chair and who throws rice which the Government supplies in this very tract that the worst fea- 000,000 sold annually are white. The stones through the village windows. daily to people who are actually starv. tures of the present famine are to be progenitor. Dianthus caryophyllus. Woughf! But he'll make a dainty ing. England is too much absorbed in found. The people are literally dying Woughf! But he'll make a dainty ing. England is too much absorbed in salad with walrus fat!" and off he watching the extension of her doming of starvation. The greater portion of the cattle, the celebrated breed of raised upon a long 'claw' or handle.

tng a dance in honor of the midnight

"Oh, dear! I'll be good if I ever get tle boy, but he had a reputation. If back out of this," said he, and he tried a stone courted a window in the villard to bite his apple; but it was large, and the window got smashed, frozen so solid that his teeth could all information tends to confirm the twas sure to be Jimmy that was blam- not dent it and wish as hard as he belief that no great public disaster more than quadrugled. As for the ed for it. If Willie Prime came home might, the wish would not come if was ever before coped with so energehe could not bite the apple.

little boy after all. He could fill the he felt himself slipping, slipping! Then alone with the famine has he had to box quicker and get the cows in from with an awful scream, he fell-bump deal during this trying year. The the local officials, a severe epidemic of pasture sooner than Willie Prime, who off the mattress on to the garret floor plague maintains its grip on the cholera has now broken out at some of

mother's voice called at the foot of stripped of white troops, which, in the startling rate. In the Bombay Presi-

to bend no more pins."

"Supper is ready," she said.

TO ADJUST EYEGLASSES.

'Oh, ves." said the optician, as he chair at prayers that morning. So fitted a pair of glasses on the nose Jimmy was forced to spend the after- of a customer. "There is an art in noon a prisoner "in durance vile," in putting on nose glasses and at least the garret, where he sweltered in the a half of the people who wear glasses heat and took rare comfort shying don't know how to put them on. The dried apples from the windows at the result is that the moment they begin to perspire a little or when they shake There would be a strange swelling their heads or make any unusual good part of our business. There is a good profit in putting in new lenses. Really the only sensible glasses to wear are spectacles. They fasten over the ears, and they never fall off and they don't get out of adjustment. They fit on the same place every time and the eye looks through the center of the lens as it should look. But most people think that spectacles make them look older or something like that and they insist on nose glasses. Then they don't know how to put them on, and if they con't get them just right the eyes don't look through the center of the lenses and if there is any disorder of the vision other than nearsightedness the improperly adjusted glasses often do more harm than good, to say nothing of the expense from breakage. Now, madam, if you feel you must wear glasses instead of spectacles take them like this."

He took the glasses and held them perfectly level before him. "Stretch them wide apart and approach the like this." He advanced them toward the tip of the nose, "now raise the nose he advanced then 'Now let go," said he. The glasses were on firm. "Shake your head," said he. The customer shook her head. The glasses wiggled but did not fall off.

"You see," said the optician, "you can't shake them off. They sit perthe fairy. "Not so fast, please, one feetly and just fit the eye. You don't want anything better than that do you? Now try putting them on yourself."

The customer took them off and attempted to put them back. She got them on askew.

No! no! no!" said the optician, 'that's all wrong," and he showed her over again how it should be done, It took six times trying before the customer mastered the knack and

went away happy. She'H be back in a month," said the optician, "wanting one or two enses to replace her broken ones. low I've showed her exactly how to part them on, but she'll get careless fter a while and will forget all about t. I can always tell about that by the way they catch on to the knack of adjusting them when they first put them on. People who have to wear glasses at all should wear speciacles. But if they will wear nose clips they must learn how to adjust them or hey'll ruin their eyes and break their pockets at the same time. Women are no worse than men in that, I've got

INDIA'S GREAT FAMINE.

PRESENT APPALLING CALAMITY.

Death Roll Unknown-Six Millions on the Relief Works-India's Stient En durance-England Disgusted With Her Post Laureate-"Count Tols:er" on conditions, except for the worse.

ing another tragedy, less dramatic, less picturesque, but the most terrible of modern times - the famine in terrible height, on a great field of India, writes a London correspondent. ice where great polar bears were hav- Its death roll is unknown—I have not dency, hitherto reputed to be the most seen even an estimate of the numbers who have rerished-and one reads only Looking up, they caught sight of an occasional official paragraph stat-

Just then he looked down and saw the grandfather bear's great red than and opened wide to catch him and he felt himself slipping, slipping! Then he felt himself slipping, slipping! Then alone with the famine has he had to afflicted land and cholera has recently the relief works in the Godhra district; "Guess I ate too many dried apples!' been added to its miseries. Political and the people, weakened by many dangers have further complicated the weeks and months of low diet, are suc-"Jimmy! Jimmy! Oh, Jimmy!" his situation. The country has been almost cumbing to this terrible scourge at a early months of the war the danger of dency as a whole there are no fewer "Yes'm," he answered, "I ain't gotn a Russian invasion seriously alarmed than two millions of people on famine this crisis, the Viceroy has succeeded more than twenty millions. in maintaining

ABSOLUTE TRANQUILITY. an accomplishment creditable alike to of India equally afflicted. The great-

whom he presides. would suffer and perish thus unresistingly, even uncomplainingly. Never described by the superstanding the such as Jodhpur and Bikanir much of it is actual devent. In States such as Jodhpur place in size and form within a dozen of the superstanding the such as Jodhpur and Bikanir much of it is actual devent. before has the philosophy of the East, the fatalism, which the wisdom of the West condemns, furnished so amazing pletely out of the reach of relief operaan object lesson. A great nation which submits to suffering and death by hunger without a struggle, however impotent struggling might be, is impossible to establish relief works. a spectacle which the cannot understand. The silence of ence India is the marvel of the world today. Not a cry has been heard, not as long as they can and then when also is silent.

worse. Six millions is now the number miles or more away. of human beings who perform the al- "There is every reason to believe lotted task of stone breaking or that a very large proportion of these reservoir building in order to receive people never reach their destination, keep body and soul together. Thou- emaciated corpses are soon picked sands perish because they are unable clean by the jackals and vultures to work and their Eastern pride pre- which hang on their track. Numbers vents their accepting a tiny dole of reach their journey's end only to die, food as pure charity. I refrain from In some parts of Rajputana, it is said, reproducing any of the famine stories scarce a day passes without a number from the English press. Few are print- of people of all ages and both sexes ed and they are too painful. Most of being found dead by the roadside. the papers neglect, almost ignore, the Their bodies are mere skeletons with subject, but the Standard this week skin stretched tightly over them, and gives an interesting summary of the for months past they must have sufsituation as it existed in the early fered the acutest pangs of hunger. part of the present month. The fol- Yet nothing can well be done for them,

regarded as outside the afflicted area, portions of the western desert who things are rapidly becoming worse, have delayed too long their attempt of a fortnight. There has been a little rain, but this came too late malicular and desire to continue to the space of a fortnight. There has been a little rain, but this came too late malicular and desire to continue to the space of the sp

THE STANDING CROPS aspect of the country especially the cree. Deccan districts, is dreary in the extreme.

pletely deserted for months past, some twelve millions. to fail before, are now absolutely dry. this Deccan country, and it is, conse- large cities." quently, not surprising to learn that the intensity of the famine in his

territory is rapidly increasing. "Passing to the Bombay Presidency we come to the part of India, which, in the opinion of the Central auth- quite got here yet, said Uncle Jerry orities, is the most severely afflicted And before the words were fairly out of his mouth he was floundering spectacles yet."

So for new lenses. That's about \$1 a week, and I can't get him to wear tality from starvation may be greater, mainly because the system of famine senseless age.

Seem to me sometimes as it we was floundering spectacles yet."

Seem to me sometimes as it we was floundering senseless age.

relief and the organization generally in such States is not so good as in British territory; but it is now gener-MULTITUDES PERISHING IN THE ally admitted that certain parts of Bombay present the worst famine features in all India at the present time The latest official reports show that there has been no change in the

There is no abatement of the famine; If it were not for the war in South things are merely getting slowly and Africa, all the world would be watch- surely more terrible and more disastrous than before. "One of the most remarkable tures of the present famine is that certain districts in the Bombay Presi-

fertile, perhaps, in all India, are NOW THE MOST AFFLICTED. "In ordinary times the country around Barodo and Ahmedabad presalad with walrus fat!" and off he watching the extension of her cattle, the celebrated breed of common saw him coming and heard what he saw him coming and heard what he most normalism saw him coming and heard what he saw he saw him coming and heard what he saw he saw him coming and heard what he I do not mean to accuse the British done to keep the people alive, but tically and so efficiently by the official keep the remnants alive in cattle natural or artificial means the pollen accumulating all the literature he

the British Govermennt. Through all relief, and the population affected is

": To the north and northeast of Gujarat we come to another portion him and to the suffering millions over of extremely light character and in many parts is hard to distinguish from sparsely populated and the country itself is so utterly hopeless that it is Western mind The inhabitants eke out a mere exist-

ON QUARTER RATIONS

even a protest. The world's assis- physically quite unequal to the strain tance has been received with a thank- of a long journey over the sun-baked, fulness none the less deep because it waterless wastes of sand, they try to think, that the trouble with her palm object is to make a great golden chain make their way to the relief works or And day by day the situation grows the big towns, perhaps a hundred

from the Government the means to but die in the desert, where their owing extracts give a fair idea of it: Those who thus die almost invariably "In Madras, which has hitherto been prove to be residents of the remoter

irrigated lands, which are now in tence. With that fatalistic tendency palm is that it suffers from want of terially to benefit the crops on un- parently hopeless struggle for existmany places given up for lost Irriga- which is so marked a characteristic tion supplies are generally scanty, and of all Orientals, they argue among themselves that it is their kismet, their destiny, and that, an inscruare now practically confined to irritable Providence having willed them gated lands. Pasturage is almost to die of famine, it would be idle to everywhere dried up, and the general struggle against the inexorable de-

"Going from Madras to Bombay, the had hardly got over the scarcity of a traveller does not see one single patch few years ago, before this new and terof green, not even so much as a blade rible disaster came upon them. There of grass, for hundreds of miles on end. has been no change for the better in The whole of the Madra and Bombay this region. There are now about Deccan is simply one vast expanse of scorched-up, waterless upland. In many places hamlets have been com- tion directly affected by the famine is Fodder is simply because these is no water with- scarce, and water exceptionally so. in many miles of them. Springs and The rivers, indeed, are now at a lower rivers, which have never been known level than has ever been known, as are also the various tanks and reser-The Nizam's dominions largely lie in voirs which form the water supply of

> UNCLE JERRY'S PESSIMISTIC VIEW

I reckon the horseless age hain't Peebles, turning from the strike news to the war despatches, but it does

Floriculture.

THE CARNATION.

The carnation pink, belongs to the genus Dianthus, meaning "Flower of they were able to ascertain the Jove." From its delicate grace, its regularity, its delicious clove-like fra- divining rods and other instruments grance and its variety of color and readiness to bloom it is a wonderful favorite. It is a more democratic flower than the rose; it is the people's flower and it may be bought at any street stand. With ordinary care the cut carnations will hold their color and fragrance for days, being therefore very desirable for decorative use in hot rooms where other flowers would wilt. The ease with which they are cultivated makes them the most Carnation is a misnomer, for 250,-

still found in old fashioned gardens, weeds, sand worts, and arenarias are copy. By cultivation and hybridization our florists evolve magnificent gaged in making a collection of diflower, the seed, while maturing, be- by men who claim to be gifted in this ing carefully watched and nurtured. line. He is also collecting the names Thus the grand hybrid blooms of to- and addresses of inventors of the alday have been evolved, and with their leged devices. petals, including transformed stamens It is needless to say that scientific and pistils, greatly enlarged and mul- men regard these diviners as frauds tiplied to the number of fifty or more. pure and simple. They believe the

in the original type.

The new carnations are beauties. A sert. Railways are few and far be-tween and vast tracts are almost comcalled with truth a brilliant white, its proper light. called with truth a brilliant white, through pink and rose to a deep, dark alle and thorough investig and yet vivid red. From white the carnation also shades toward yeilow, the number of victims of the shades toward yeilow, though truth compois the admission that the color is not desirable in this flower.

CARE OF THE PALM.

pointers on palm culture will find, we recently been formed in Canada. Its is that it is not properly potted. She of patriotism throughout the coun-Probably the plant is really suffering dren into touch with each other by from want of water, which runs off means of small clubs called "Chapbefore it wets the ball of roots.

The size of the pot seems all right, over the world. These clubs are of but we should put it in a nine-inch two kinds, either of grown-up women pot on account of the large mass of or of children guided by their older roots mentioned. Do not cut or in- friends. The meetings take place jure the roots nor disturb them, any once a month, in each others' houses more than, you can help. Put some when a nice little patriotic program broken crockery and a few lumps of is enjoyed. Each club has its flag coal in the bottom of the pot, then a and its badge. The badges are made few inches of fresh, rich, fertile earth, from a special design, which has been set the plant on this, in the center, registered, and will be worn all over and fill in around it with fresh earth, the world. This Federation has alpacking it solidly. If the water "runs ready spread over the other colonies, right through" it is a sign the pack- and has taken root in England, and ing is not sufficient.

Every other day is often enough to ed States. Single members may enwater it. Give it light, but not much roll individually. sunlight. After repotting it will need mend it to our readers. Every wono fertilizer for a long time. Never man and every child in Canada ought

For lice on household plants, slip

a large paper bag over the plant. his paper. Get some smoker to put his pipe under the edge of the bag and give three or four strong whiffs. Let the plant stand a few minutes, then take off the had something good to eat. bag and immediately give the plants "The next most afflicted portion of a good syringing to knock off the intil your husband has had his breakfast India is the central Provinces, which sects that are dead or partly so. You and then help him tenderly into his can prevent the lice from getting the coat, and while behind him smoothing start of you by picking off those that his collar the right way, ask him for first appear, and syringing freely, using with clear cool water.

THE SWEET PEA

The sweet pea is said to have an in-The sweet pea is said to have an international bicentenary celebration this year. It was introduced into British gardens from its home in Eastern Europe just 200 years ago. The fine blooms and extensive range of colorings which are now obtained are, however, of comparatively recent cate, having heen produced during the says he is going to the club for an hour, dear, bid him added for the exeminer. date, having been produced during the last quarter of a century or so by the efforts of growers like the Shropshire firm of Eckford and the Shropshire firm of Eckford and the specific control of the will not be "tied to a woman's apron strings." American firm of Burpee. The arrangements for the bicentenary include an exhibition in London in July with prizes for bunches, collections native States of Rajputana, the mor- seem to me sometimes as if we was and decorative effects, a conference

WATER DIVINERS.

France Will Investigate the Dubious Claims of These Alleged Experis.

For many years men in this country and in Europe have claimed that sources of water supply by means of of fanciful names. In later years also these gifted persons have asserted their ability to discover minerals as well as water. The faith in the water diviner has been particularly prevalent in England where he still plies his lucrative profession without legal interference. He is often employed even by town authorities, who fail to realize that they are merely his dupes when his art proves inadequate to the task of discovering water sources. Among implements besides the divining rod which these sorcerers, water seers or wizards have devised as the means of divination, are mineral rods, equipped with a magnet at one end, exploring pendulums, hydroscopie compasses and many others.

In March tast, a commission was appointed in France to study all the apparatus and methods employed by of the commission. He is now envining implements of all kinds He is

In the multiplication the strain whole business is akin to that of the upon the calyx cup becomes very fortune teller, the fake spiritualist or great. It must not, however, break any other charlatan; and they think and let the petals fall in a slovenly it strange that the frauds have so manner. This is prevented by a cor- long been permitted to ply their vocaresponding development of the un- tion without fear of prosecution. Usuderlying bracts, which grow longer ally the victims are the only ones to and stronger and more numerous than suffer, and they have to pay dear for their gullibility.

It is high time the whole matter sharpers who should have been suppressed long ago.

EMPIRE WOMEN AND CHILDREN. A new society cailed "The Daughters

of the Empire," with junior branches The lady who wrote requesting some called "Children of the Empire," has off quickly. try, bringing the women and the chilters," which are being started all among British residents in the Unit-We heartily com-

> ADVICE TO YOUNG WIVES. Never disturb a man while reading

Never ask a fat man for anything when pulling on his boots. Never speak to a man until he has

When you want anything wait un-

When he looks injured and plaintive examine his plate, there is sure to be vacancy. If he lies on the sofa after dinner

and shakes the house with his spores

BRINGING HIM TO TERMS. Blanch-I shall quarrel with him to-night as a matter of necessity, May-What for?

Blanche-He hasn't been as devoted to me lately as he ought.

SUFFE

Medic Unt He and From Mr. Payne' the to esteem

convers Mail re cerning Mr. Fis these r It was ! his exp readily Mail th

tion:-

In jus I think they ha testimon seen in suffered and dov these w trouble, kept me were no would sh As ar my appe

I was 1

many (effect, a: medicine try Dr not easil up the 1 had help finally co I purcha tonished entirely u and after restored I take g ing this may profi suffer the

> going to t strengther diseases fr dealer doe be sent p six boxes Dr. Willia ville, Ont.

Dr. W

ves! He say are preparin A FOUR YEAR MATISM. CURE WAS

"There is

Mrs. J. H Toronto, wif ly from rhe four years sh tense, and she or treatment induced to tr Cure. She free from pai testimony by and can mov my life. Sold by J.

> an' suppoht a time!" "Wal he's got ob me Sevente "I had a ba writes Mrs Si Tenn. "No c it until one y King's New which did me medicines I ev cure for stubbo and Lung Consumption, Asthma, Hay

"Dere's Di

wuckin' half-t

policy!" "I de

at J. E. Richa Customer-I would kick abo mixed up! L blizness allee customers likee Bievelists.

bottle of Pain-It cures cuts ar quickness. Av one Pain-Kille