"A special sale of selected shopworn atin slippers."
"Strict, strong, Stephen Stringer nared slickly six sickly, silly snakes."

An Exciting Subject. By Felix Leigh.
Let us go and study Nature!"
Said the Doctor to the school.
(He is awfully impulsive,
Is the Doctor, as a rule)

So we trooped along beside him,
Wearing looks, no doubt, of glee,
Since we guessed that Nature study,
With the Head, would be a spree. Said the worthy Doctor, kneeling, "Here's a bombus' nest. You know That's the 'bumble'—Tut! it's stung on the nose-we'd better go!"

whereupon we hurried after,
As he strode across the plain.
All felt sure that some amusement (With instruction) we should gain. here are blind-worms in this hedgerow; We must find one if we can," Quoth the Doctor. "They are harm-

Here the Nature students ran. Yes, we ran as if for dinner

We believe we should be late;

And the bull which chased us hotly

Helped the Doctor o'er a gate,

Have you ever heard of sundews?" Later on, the Doctor cried.
Though they're plants, they're insec

eaters;
In a bog they're apt to hide.
Ah, see yonder!" Thus exclaiming
He stepped out on what seeme
grass,
And next moment he was sinking
In a miniature morass. will sit down on this hillock,

For a rest my limbs demand."
Said the Doctor, when we'd dragged him From the quagmire to dry land. But he rose up rather 'priskly, Which was natural, you'll grant, When I mention that the "hillock" Owed existence to the ant.

We would like to study Nature With the Doctor twice a week For instruction (with amusement)
Is the very thing we seek.
But of late such studies are not,
It would seem, the Doctor's whim;
And our chaps believe that Nature
Is a bit too rough for him!

The Two Little Plocks. Five little sheep on a hillside grazed where the raggedest daisles grew; And just overhead, in a sunny spot, were five little clouds in the blue; And the five little clouds in the sky looked down
On the five litle sheep below,
And called out to them, in a friendly

way,
"O little white flock, helio!
We look allies we must be slike;
Now isn't that plain to you?
Come up with us in the pasture-sky—
O little white flock, please do!"
But the five little sheep on the hill looked sad, And nibbled the grass instead;

And each one smothered a sorrowfu sigh, shaking his wise little head.

Shaking his wise little head.

And they called to the flock in the sky.

"Oh, no!

would never do;

Such union would never do; We must be fed on the greenest grass, While your meadow-grass is blue, And how would we look, when trying to fly, with hard little feet for wings?

Were made for different things!"
And the little white flock in the sky

looked down
On the little white flock below,
and they said to themselves, "How
queer, when we
Hesemble each other so!"
— Miriam S. Clark.

The Dress of a Bluejacket

Many readers will be spending some part of their holidays at the sea-side and may see son thing of the ships and men of the Royal navy. There are many little points about the bluejackets uniform which they may be glad to know.

The blue linen collar which Jack wears is said to be a relic of the days when British sailors had long and greasy pigtails. The backs of their white jackets used to get very dirty, so they were ordered to adopt a collar which could be easily removed and washed.

which could be easily removed and washed.

The three white lines round his collar are said to be in memory of Nelson's three great victories. The black silk scarf worn under the collar is a token of mourning for Nelson. After the news of the great admiral's death reached England this black scarf was ordered and the custom has never been discontinued.

Jack's arm is often very interesting. It carries barges mysterious to the land-lubber but denoting some special qualification and duty.

On one you will see in gold a little naval gun and torpedo crossed with a star above. The man who wears this is a leading torpedo man.

On another arm you will see a gun placed horizontally and a star above it. This belongs to a first-class seaman gunner.

On a third you will see a little gold

on a third you will see a little gold crew propeller, which is the badge of and the elbow.

The World's Most Powerful Magnets. Every boy is familiar with the magnet. After a pocket knife, a magnet, in the minds of some, is the next best

Of recent years the magnet has come to the front in the workshop and the ractory, and now the world's Giggest magnets will lift a weight of 50,000 lbs.

These giant magnets are much in evidence in iron and steel works where they are used not only for lifting bars or metal, but for holding fn position large sheets of iron or steel while being riveted, removing huge metal weights from blast furnaces, transferring loads of nails from one part ? The works to another, and in picking of metal scraps from heaps of rubbish.

The mammoth magnets, such as have been mentioned are manipulated by vidence in iron and steel works

current is sent through the coils of the magnet by means of a switch. When the current is switched off the magnet drops its burden. een mentioned, are manipulated

J. LeRog Laidley

The Immigrants' Mecca The Settlers' Paradise

There lies a vale in Ida, lovlier Than all the valleys of Ionian hills; The swimming vapour slopes athwart the glen, Puts forth an arm, and creeps from pine to

And loiters slowly drawn. On either hand

height of 61/2 feet, while all varieties of hay have the same heavy growth. Wheat has not been raised to any extent but it is thought

that its cultivation would meet with equal success. The following figures show what crops can be raised in almost any part of the

Scene Looking South-East Wellington, Millstone River Valley

The lawns and meadow ledges midway down Hang rich in flowers, and far below them

The long brook falling through the clov'n

In cataract after cataract to the sea. Behind the valley topmost Gargarus Stands up and takes the morning."

To one who traces, from the outlet where the Millstone River flows into the placid waters of Nanaimo Bay, the meandering course of this boisterous stream and emerges by many a winding way into the broad reaches of the valley, the mind's eye finds in the beautiful vistas beyond a counterpart of the fabled vale of Ida which is pictured so beautifully in the appended lines. Two and a half miles from Nanaimo opens out this Millstone River Valley which in ever widening expanse extends thirteen miles in length from the outskirts of Nanaimo to the head of Nanoose Although within such a short distance of Nanaimo, a city of 8,000 inhabitants; it has been practically undeveloped, except at its southern extremity. Here through the bottom land, the stream winds its way through fields heaving with plenty. On the eastern side, a low-lying ridge of hills throw up their verdure clad crest against the chilly blasts of the Gulf of Georgia. To the west, the bottom lands are crowned with up-land dales where fields of grain and orchards lie embosomed in groves of fir and pine. Higher and further back, the bench-lands, forest-clad, extend and erect themselves as bulwarks about the buttresses of Mt. Benson, which lifts its twin peaks to the golden portals of the setting sun.

There is no more stable foundation for the prosperity of a country than that found in the resources of its arable land and it is in such valleys as the above described Millstone River Valley that is hidden the wealth that will make the future of Vancouver Island great. For many years, owing to the absence of an agricultural class and lack of progressive development and enterprise, the wealth of such rich land has lain dormant although possessing such great commercial and natural advantages. Having long passed through the rugged days of pioneer life, there has yet hung about it the vague, enticing glamour of antiquity and an indescribable touch of the Arcadian. For many years it has lain in a condition such as some poet has called

"* * * Two worlds, one dead,

The other powerless to be born." However it has now emerged from that peaceful condition which heralds the dawn of rapid development and enterprise. It is as one writer has put it, rapidly entering into the throes of being "discovered." The general industrial expansion which is being felt throughout Vancouver Island, has in no small degree attracted attention to the farming possibilities of the Island in general and this district in particular. Taking into consideration the fact that a 50-acre Vancouver Island farm is the equal of a 200-acre farm in the middle west, price and productivity considered, and the fact that thousands of acres of land in this valley are still available, it can easily be seen that a

marvellous future awaits this district. Heretofore, mixed farming has been the chief agricultural pursuit, but considerable attention is now being directed to dairying, and fruit and poultry raising. The soil of the valley is suitable for nearly all phases of agricultural life. In the bottom-lands, a deep, rich loam prevails, which produces grains and roots, it is believed, unsurpassed in any part of the world. In the higher reaches of the valley, which sweeps upward to the more heavily wooded bench lands, the soil becomes somewhat lighter and loses its heavy nature-a condition better adapted for fruit raising, although producing grain and all roots in the Humours of Parliament." I was telling my small paper currency—to those who can af- \$2 either way,

valley: Potatoes, 8 to 10 tons per acre; hay, 3 tons per acre; turnips and mangles, 35 tons

per acre; oats, 70 bushels per acre; oat hay,

21/2 tons per acre. Furthermore, all agriculture is carried on without the aid or trouble of irrigation, though if that were desired, ample supply could be

greatest profusion. Oats often attain the totally disregarded but circumstances indicate that this phase of agriculture is now coming into its own in this district. Those who have now undertaken this especial work, have met with great success and they can exhibit fruit which is second to none in British Columbia. Inspector Wilson in comparing the land here with the famous Okanagan, stated that "equally good if not better fruit can be grown in the district around Nanaimo."

For fruit raising, as well as other classes of agriculture, the climate is par excellence. Here one enjoys the most equable climate on Vancouver Island, the rainfall being 33 inches per annum, just half that of Vancouver. Snow is the exception rather than the rule, and then falling but to disappear rapidly. The mercury rarely drops below freezing point. In summer the heat is never excessive although the land is bathed in sunshine from the first of April to the middle of October. Cradled in such a balmy air, it is little surprising that the most tender fruits such as strawberries, pears, peaches, apricots, grapes, melons and tomatoes can be raised in profusion.

The other avenues for profitable industry lie open in dairying and poultry-raising. In Nanaimo a poultry society exists which holds a high class show every year and there are several prize-stocked ranches in the valley. For dairying there are all the advantages which could be desired. There is an unlimited range, while in Nanaimo is situated the Nanaimo Creamery which is controlled by the Farmers' Association. Despite its considerable output, it cannot nearly supply the local demand, the price of butter ranging from 35 to 45 cents per pound.

cial as of natural advantages. At the distance of a few miles, ready markets lie open for all the farm produce which is available. In Nanaimo, only two and one-half miles distant, the demand is much greater than the local supply. Farm produce is shipped in from mainland

via the E. & N. railway which passes only a mile from the valley, while daily connection can be made via. Nanaimo with the extensive markets in Vancouver where the highest prices

Millstone River Valley, however, can boast of more than one industry. At the valley set-

finest coal has been struck and actual shipments have been made by means of a road engine for a considerable length of time. In this mine places are now working, all in 6-ft. of solid coal. The company have also put in a switch to connect their mine with the Ladysmith Lumber company's railroad which



This district partakes as fairly of commer- tlement at East Wellington is located a saw mill which has been recently erected by the Ladysmith Lumber Co. This mill is already turning out 40,000 feet of lumber a day, and forms one of the growing industries of the valley. A railway, 3½ miles in length, conveys the output of this mill to Nanaimo for shippoints nearly all the year round. Hay, oats ment. The company enjoys a large trade in

crosses the valley only half a mile distant. Thus they are now able to ship direct by the carload from their bunkers by means of a ferry ship which has lately been built at Nanaimo. They have also made application to erect their own bunkers and wharf on Nanaimo Bay. What this industry may mean in the near future to the valley can hardly be estimated as it is believed very extensive coal

But combined with the industrial possibilities, which all the settlers confidently believe this valley has in store, are all the advantages which go to delight the heart of a nimrod or a disciple of Izaak Walton. Fish abound in lake and stream. Feathered game are plentiful, while farther back in the interior a verita-ble sportsman's paradise exists. Here the fleet-footed deer will test the hunter's aim, while bears, panthers and wolves will try his

The valley can also boast of its educational and religious institutions. A splendid public school is situated at East Wellington, while church service is held there every Sunday. There is a good high school in Nanaimo at which all advanced pupils can be accommo-

With the attention which is now being paid to this district, the number of prospective settlers who are enquiring regarding it, the land clearing in operation and in contemplation by the C. P. R. company and the opening up of timber limits, the gradually increasing exodus of people from the prairie provinces to take up their residence in the smiling valleys of British Columbia, with the general industrial expansion which is now taking place in Nanaimo, the settlers of this valley, blessed with an equable climate, richly endowed with natural beauties, look forward with confidence to the time when Millstone River Valley will not only be an agricultural suburb of Nanaimo, but an industrial centre as well.



Truck Garden Scene-East Wellington; Millstone River Valley

obtained. Through the district settlement at and wheat can hardly be obtained; butter and East Wellington, above the valley, runs a stream which by means of a dam, could easily supply all the farming land around. For this work the energetic Development League of this district are about to petition the provincial government's assistance, and if such work were undertaken, the town of East Wellington might easily instal their own water works

Hitherto, fruit-raising has been almost as readily be found at Ladysmith and Victoria for the past two years. A 6-ft. seam of the

eggs are imported in large quantities, while most of the fruit placed on the market is either from California or mainland points. The following figures show the general prices which obtain throughout the district: Hay, \$20 per ton; oats, \$35 per ton, potatoes, \$20 per ton; butter, 30c to 40c per pound; eggs, 25c to 65c per dozen; milk, 10c per quart

With increased production, markets could

rough and dressed lumber throughout the district, at Nanaimo and Ladysmith, while their export trade reaches the entire breadth of the

Another industry, which though in its inception, means much to this valley, is the coal mining trade. At the southern extremity of the valley is located the Little Mountain coal mine on which the Vancouver-Nanaimo Coal company has been energetically pushing work

"Could you lend me a sharp knife?" asked

a customer, in the cafe of a big hotel near the

coming, the customer took a new two-dollar

middle, and cut it neatly in two, placing the

sure of value for their money:

A COLLEGE FOR DOGS

The most unique "college" in the United States is the training school at Ridgely for hunting dogs. This "dog college," as the wags have it, it known over the greater portion of the United States, and its principal is recognized as the most successful trainer in the country. The principal is rather a remarkable man, possessing those rare qualities which give a human being power over the brute kinddom. Just as the college professor teaches the "young idea to shoot," so the principal of this training school for dogs teaches his setters to "set" and his pointers to "point." course of instruction extends from four to six months.

AMBUSHED

The motor car had reached a nice level stretch of road, and the man in the goggles was preparing for a scorch when an honest eyed old farmer stepped from the hillside and held up his hand. "Reckon you was jes' goin' to slip along tidy fast!" he observed when the car came to a standstill.

The motorist gave no denial to the state-

"What made you ask?" he inquired. The farmer produced a pair of battered field-glasses. "Clap your eyes to these 'ere," he remarked, "and look up that there tree along the road. Happen you'll change your mind."

"Great Scott. A police trap," exclaimed the motorist, as he discerned a blue-trousered figure perched on a branch. "Thanks, old friend," and the clink of coins was heard. A minute later a motor car was crawling

past the tree at six-miles-an-hour pace, while the farmer was counting his wealth and smil-

"That idea of carting the scarecrow from the pea-field an' fixing it into the tree," I chuckled, "worn't so had."

THE FLY ON MR. GLADSTONE'S NOSE audience, as I pointed to the pictures on the ford tips on a liberal scale, and want to make

I remember once, says Harry Furniss in the Strand Magazine, when I was giving a lecture on "Portraiture: Past and Present," and illustrating the portraits on medals with the aid of a lantern, I came to some near the bottom of the screen. "Here," said I, "we have the Lord Mayor and the Lady Mayoress of London, 1300 A.D." At that moment the Mayor and Mayoress of the town, who, for effect, I suppose, had come in a quarter of an hour late to the seats reserved for them in the centre of the hall, walked past the rays of the screen, and, as can be supposed, caused on to the screen. an effect that had not been anticipated.

On another occasion a fly was an offender whilst I was giving a lecture with the aid of a lantern. I was showing some portraits of

screen, that one moment he looks like this and at another he looks like that, when there was great burst of laughter. I proceeded to speak about Gladstone's flashing eye and noble Grand Central Station, as he sipped "some-brow, and by the time I mentioned something thing long and cool." The knife being forthbrow, and by the time I mentioned something about his aquiline nose my audience seemed to be in hysterics. Thinking that by some bill from his pocket, folded it carefully in the mischance the wrong picture was being thrown on the screen, I turned round, and was at first horrified to see a gigantic fly apparently walking about on the nose of the Grand Old Man. It appeared that the fly had got into the lantern, had been caught between the the lantern, and were, of course, shown on lenses, and was being magnified a hundredfold

A NEW TIPPING IDEA

The New York Tribune tells the following Mr. Gladstone in my entertainment, "The story, which illustrates the usefulness of a

"You want to know why I did that, don't you?" he remarked to the mysterious bartender. "Well, that's part of a little scheme of mine. I'm going over pretty soon to put my wife on a train for Chicago. One-half of that bill I'll give to my wife and the other half to the porter. If the colored man is attentive, and courteous throughout the trip my wife will give him her half of the bill in Chi cago. If he's slow and grumpy he gets only the piece I gave him. Of course I lose my

halves in his wallet.