AN INTERESTING PAGE FOR THE BOYS AND GIRLS.

will cook the porridge for supper."

"Yes, mother," said Margery. Then bread, and a bit of honeycomb?" nered one beside the chimney. The and sweetly and entered.

ed with the whitest sand; lovely old a courtly, yet modest, air. straight-backed chairs stood about: When he had eaten his fill, and his door, throwing a pewter porringer sang beautifully.

mond and Barbara. They were flying Margery sorrowfully.

beautiful coach-and-four is drawn up Margery. there. There are lackeys in green and While they were eating their own say."

"Margery," said her mother, "take her spinning-wheel, ad came forward, meters about the stranger's rich atthe pitcher now, and fetch me some she was a very courteous woman. tire, and his flowing locks of real gold the pitcher now, and fetch me some "Wilt thou enter, and rest thyself?" wire, his lips like rubles and his eyes fresh, cool water from the well, and I said she, "and have a cup of our por-like diamonds. He furnished the little ridge, and a slice of our wheaten dog with hair of real floss silk, and

The cupboard was a three-cor- thanked the good woman very softly at it had been blinded. It was the

sure, but it was very pretty. Vines slices of wheaten berad, and a plate of the poem. It is a pity it has not been grew all over it, and flowering bushes honeycomb, a bowl of ripe raspberries, preserved, but it was destroyedcrowded close to the diamond-paned and a little jug of yellow cream, and how will transpire further on. windows. There was a little garden at another little bowl with a garland of Well, two days after this dainty one side, with beds of pinks and violets roses around the rim, for the porridge, stranger with his coach-and-four came in it, and a straw-covered beehive, Just as soon as that was cooked, the to the village a little wretched beggar and some raspberry bushes all yellow stranger sat down and ate a supper fit boy, leading by a dirty string a forlorn, for a prince. Margery and her mother muddy little dog, appeared on the

there was an oaken table, and a spin- little dog had ben fed, too, he offered after him, which hit the poor little ning-wheel. A wicker cage, with a lark his entertainers some gold out of a lit- dog and made it yelp. Then he in it, hung in the window—the lark tle silk purse, but they would not take spoke pitifully to the people he met, and

along to the village well. On the way and went away with many thanks. the oldest woman, but she gathered her she met two of her little mates-Rosa- "We shall never see him again," said skirts closely behind her and hobbled

along, their cheeks very rosy and their "The memory of a stranger one has her cap strings flying straight out be-eyes shining." "The memory of a stranger one has her cap strings flying straight out be-

dren went to school, with their hornbooks hanging at their sides, they found the schoolmaster greatly excited over it. He was a verse-maker, and though he had not seen the stranger himself, his imagination more than made amends for that. So the scholars were not under a very strict rule that day, for the master was busy compos ing a poem about the stranger. Every now and then a line of the poem got mixed in with the lessons.

The school master told in beautiful called his ribbon a silver chain. Then she put on her little white dimity hood The little boy sniffed hungrily at the the coach as it rolled along presented and got the pitcher, which was charm- porridge which was just beginning to such a dazzling appearance that sevshaped, from the cupboard boil; he hesitated a moment, but finally eral persons who inadvertently looked

schoolmaster's opinion, set forth in his cottage which Margery and her mo- Then Margery and her mother set a poem, that this really was a prince. ther lived in, was very humble, to be bottle of cowslip wine on the table, One could scarcely doubt it on reading

Inside the cottage, the floor was sand- half supposed he was one; he had such street. He went to the tavern first, but the host pushed him out of the knocked at the cottage doors, but Margery with her pitcher, tripped So he took hold of his dog's ribbon, everyone drove him away. He met by, her pointed nose up in the air and



His father was a Lindsay, and a very rich and noble gentleman. Some

had belonged to her son who had died a home in that neighborhood. She did think of the mother?" had belonged to her son who had died that heighborhood. She did think of the mother?"

The little gentleman looked funny in the little rustic's blue smock, but he was very comfortable. They fed the live in the state and then build a cabin to admire, but perhaps she will imtill his white hair looked fluffy and called "squatting," and people some- her."

He was a very grand gentleman; his dress was all velvet and satin and blaz-tried to look more presentable. lieve that this last little stranger was of Margery and her mother for being so stuffed with rose leaves to sleep on and fed him with the best they had. His father, in his gratitude, offered Marcried on parting with his kind friends and Margery cried, too,

"I prithee, pretty Margery, do not forget me," said he.

and gave him a sprig of rosemary out had made. However, the ordest woman stranger the second time was the rea-son of her not seeing that he loved had to make two or three trips to bring father for a second husband. ringer which he had thrown after the them. He had many times wished there tore his hair and flung the pewter porstranger and his dog into the well. their appearance. Generally he sent for the oldest woman to put her spectacles on and try the buttercup test. Then, if she said they loved butter and were Lindsays, they were taken in and entertanied royally. She generally did say they loved butter - she was so afraid of making a mistake the second Only Two Species Survive - Two-Inch time herself; so the village inn got to be a regular refuge for beggars, and they called it among themselves the "Beggar's Rest," instead of the "Boar's

As for Margery, she grew up to be

held it under his chin, and he loves butter. He's a Lindsay; all the Lindsays where Margery and her mother lived, hair on for the wedding, and he had temporary with the Stone-Age man The skin of the hippopotamus is two making a present of it to the young couple.

However, he wrote another on the wedding, of which one verse is still extant, and we will give it:

"When Lindsay wedded Margery, Merrily piped the pipers all; The groom, a gay gallant was he, When Lindsay wedded Margery, Merrily piped the pipers all." (Copyright, 1885, by D. Lothrop & Co.)

Solomon Gompers, father of Samuel, president of the American Federation of Labor, lives in Roxbury, Mass. He is 78 years old and has been totally blind for nine years. He was born in London, where he joined a trade union

"Step-Mother Joe," or the Boy of

the Cave and the Woods.

so it came about that he was a poor The son Joseph, who was always called Joe, had been taught at home and had attended a country school for three years before our story opens, and at the age of 10 he was of considerable assistance on the farm and a willing worker. The death of the mother was a sad blow to both husband and son. The farm was situated a mile from the nearest neighbor, and during the next year the two saw many lonely hours. Few travelers came that way, and sometimes a whole week passed with-

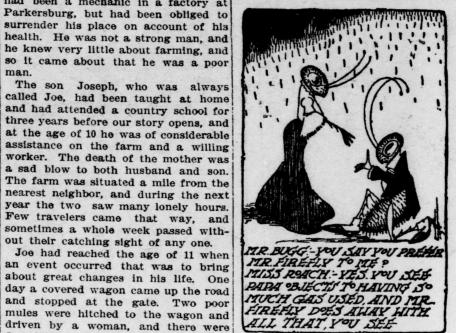
out their catching sight of any one. Joe had reached the age of 11 when little time before he and his little son an event occurred that was to bring had journeyed to London, with their about great changes in his life. One coach-and-four. Business having detained him longer than he had anticipated, and fearing his lady might be uneasy, he had sent his son home in advance, in the coach, with his lackeys five children with her. The wagon conto the tavern, quick, and see! The most fully all the while he was eating," said after her, "try me with the butterbeautiful coach-and-four is drawn up Margany."

I prithee, granny," the boy called advance, in the coach, with his lackeys tained household furniture. The wagon contained household furniture had after her, "try me with the butter-leaving this village had been household for the wagon contained household furniture. The wagon contained household furniture had a second household furniture. The wagon contained household furniture had been household for household furniture. The wagon contained household furniture had been household for household furniture. Some miles beyond they had been at-Some miles beyond they had been at children were ragged and without man- "Well, Joe, we have some new neighgold, with cocked hats, and the coach supper, the oldest woman in the village "Thou a Lindsay," quoth the oldest tacked by highwaymen and losses and I can't say that I like them. are useful in distributing oxygen to at the gate as the wagon drove up and I guess you don't either." prisoners or fled. The thieves had they at once saw that it was some "I wish they hadn't come," replied ably a factor in enabling the creature the poor little boy had crawled back family on the move.

they fancied, and had not Mr. Brayton on account of the children." soon been turned inside out.

knew that he should never like any of any time, and where could he go?"

had been a mechanic in a factory at Parkersburg, but had been obliged to



and attendants. Everything had golde man was coarse and harsh-featured ing as Brayton and his son sat on the to tear up the aquatic plants on which

Joe. The woman asked if she could get "I don't mean to let them bother us Margery and her mother did all they dinner for herself and children and feed If the children come here too often and cretion which gives to the animal that Margery and her mother did an they cretion which gives to the animal that could to comfort him. They prepared for the mules, and when told that she are too rough, I shall send them home. peculiar reddish appearance which it could to comfort him. They prepared could she prepared for a stop. She in- They are very wild and rough. Every has just after leaving the water. It is some broth for him and opened a both formed Mr. Brayton that she was a one of them ought to have at least five this peculiarity which has given to it the of cowslip wine. Margery's mother widow from Maryland and looking for good whippings a day. What do you the name of "blood-sweating behe-

a week's time he came after his son. tried to speak gently; her face was all selves as if the place belonged to them. pidity. make excuses.

To be Continued.

K DECEMBER CONTROL CON an even number of toes, while in the foot each toe is supported by a distinct and complete bone instead of all by a single bone, such as the cannon-bone so characteristic of the ruminants. In fact, the hippopotamus is a member of the great group from which came the

CHAPTER I.

Was a boy of his own age near by, but it was easy to see that he would get no comfort out of these. The second oldest boy was named Peter, and he was even meaner than his brother when his wife died. He was left with only one child, a boy 10 years old, whose name was Joseph. Mr. Brayton had been a mechanic in a factory at arrangement which we human beings very much envy. One authority states that the hippopotamus can remain as much as ten minutes under water without coming to the surface to breathe; although as a general thing he rises to the top for air about once in every two minutes, After a prolonged submersion he comes up spouting like a whale, and exhaling the air from his lungs with a great snort. When, in the presence of danger, the animal wishes to be very cautious, he can bring his nostrils only to the surface, and, in an almost imperceptible space of time, can take in sufficient air to enable him to again disappear wholly from view. In regions where he has been very much hunted he is rarely to be seen above the water, although in inaccessible portions of the interior of Africa, where man is seldom adventurous enough to make his way, the hippopotamus basks in the sun or sleeps peacefully under shady trees.

The hippopotamus is, of course, an expert swimmer, but with his broad four-toed feet he can walk along the muddy bottoms of streams, finding his great tusks excellent tools with which he likes to feed. The blood of this anito remain so long under water.

The sweat glands have a strange se-

ACTIVITY ON LAND.

One would infer from the great size, was very comfortable. They led the and live there until driven off. This is prove. We must not be too hard on the short legs, and the generally uncouth appearance of the hippopotamus. till his white hair looked fluffy and silky again.

When the London mail stopped in the village the next day they sent a message to Lord Lindsay, and in She toned her rough voice described by the content of the square of the hippopotamus, that he would be awkward and sluggish on land. This is, however, a great mistake, as he can travel with speed and a minute later the five highway, and a minute later the five precipitous cliffs with to receive the five highway, and a minute later the five precipitous cliffs with to receive the five highway and a minute later the five precipitous cliffs with the received and the five highway, and a minute later the five precipitous cliffs with the received and the five highway and a minute later the five precipitous cliffs with the received and the five highway and a minute later the five precipitous cliffs with the received and the five highway and a minute later the five highway an a message to Lord Lindsay, and in She toned her rough voice down and were in the garden and helping them-

smiles, and she combed her hair and They would not leave until Mr. Brayton When these animals happen to be in had given them a taste of a stout the vicinity of farm lands they often ing with jewels. How the villagers of the five children, two were boys switch and then they sat on the fence switch and flatly refused to bestared. They had flatly refused to bestared to bestared to bestared to be the refused to bestared to be the refused to bestared to bestared to bestared to be the refused to b lieve that this last little stranger was girls. Two of them were twins 9 years potatoes, picked peas and pulled up night, and bringing down upon them-the first one, and had made great fun old, and the third was 7. They were beets and helped themselves generally, selves the wrath of the natives, Somemore like wild animals than children, and it was easy to see that they were times when their river dries up the credulous. But they had not minded. They had no respect for their mother, going to become a plague. In the af-They had given their guest a little and were continually wrangling and ternoon Mrs. Henderson came over to a day's journey in their search for pallet stuffed with down and a pillow fighting among themselves. water, and they even occasionally go water, and they even occasionally go The mules had scarcely been un- "You see," she said to Mr. Brayton, into salt water. In the water they are hitched from the wagon when the old- "my poor dear children have had no frequently seen in schools or groups, gery's mother rich rewards, but she would take nothing. The little boy house and born all over the is why they act as they do. They are or thirty. They can equal in speed in house and barn and garden, whooping good at heart, but they want a strong the water a native canoe, and many is and yelling and grabbing at whatever hand. If I ever marry again it will be the canoe which they have overturned in sheer wantonness. The males are picked up a club and threatened them | She went about the house straighten- most formidable and dangerous crea-And she promised she never would with a beating his house would have ing things up and telling Mr. Brayton tures, being easily able to sever a man that he ought to marry again, and in half. They seem unable to tolerate There was an old cabin a mile away when supper time came she prepared the sight of anything to which they are of her garden to wear for a break-not.

There was an old cabin a mile away when supper time came she prepared the sight of anything to which they are that had stood empty for two years, the meal and ate with them. The when they discovered the mistake they had made. However, the oldest woman always maintained that her not hav-ing spectacles on when she met the ner. Mr. Brayton and Joe went along den in the bushes nearby. Young as disposition—except, of course, when had all the work to do alone. Joe also widow was trying to capture his And well it is that the mothers take such good care of the young ones, for butter, and the schoolmaster gave his poetical abstraction for an excuse.

vegetables and provisions. He had taken a great aversion to the woman and indignant. If such a thing came toward their offspring. A band of hipmore host of the "Boar's Head" fairly and her children at first sight, and he to pass, he could not live at home for popotami are sometimes seen playing about in the water, as jolly and as graceful as a school of porpoises, the females often carrying astride on their backs the infant "hippos," frequently rising A NOCTURNAL ANIMAL.

The hippopotamus is decidedly a noc-

After that he was very careful how he turned away strangers, because of THE HIPPOPOTAMUS AND HIS WAY to the surface that the young ones may fill their lungs with air.

COUTH BEAST DESCRIBED.

Skin and Primitive Toes-At Home Ashore or Afloat.

As for Margery, she grew up to be One of the strangest and crudest of the pride of the village, and in time creatures is the hippopotamus, of which belongs the specimen in the zoological seldom engage in battle.

"What little vagabond is this?" mut- I was nurse in the family a hundred fossils show that it quite recently in- do not fail to leave their trace in the habited Madagascar, and that further vegetation growing along the river As for the schoolmaster, he was dis- back the still existing African species banks, the ground often looking as tressed. His wife had taken his poem ranged into Europe while Indian forms though it had been gone over with a just discovered it. He had calculated on Out of a great number of species which inches thick, and is so tough and strong

NATURAL HABITS OF THE UN- once spread widely over the Old World turnal animal. It is at night that he only two have lived to see the present goes to pasturage, sometimes travelday. Palaeontology does not show ing as far as nine miles into the inthat at any time the hippopotamus inhabited the New World.

turning at dawn to the water, where Between the two existing species most of the long hot days are spent, there is the greatest difference, one be- Favorite haunts of his are dense groves ing the common hippopotamus, which of reeds along the rivers, where he can is the only kind to be seen in zoologi- hide and sleep in safety. Besides man, cal gardens, and the other the pigmy, the chief enemy of the hippopotamus One of the strangest and crudest of which is almost, if not quite, extinct. is the crocodile, although both these

kept the sprig of rosemary, came and a specimen is now for the first time park, is huge and uncouth of body, kept the sprig of rosemary, came and on exhibition in the New York Zoo- with a great cavernous mouth and a married her. They had a beautiful logical Park. Most primitive of all the square muzzle, its large body being senger trains are making good their wedding; all the villagers were invited; the bridegroom did not cherish any resentment. They danced on the from which the ruminents are making good their schedules, while freight trains are being operated. any resentment. They danced on the green, and the Lindsay pipers played from which the ruminants are supposed stands about four feet at the should-to have sprung, the hippopotamus is er and measures fourteen to fifteen feet damask petticoat worked with pink had almost reached the tavern, and were in full sight of the coach-anfour, when someone coming toward them caused them to draw up on one hath supped with us."

"A lamask petticoat worked with pink so extraordinary is its appearance that stiffly.

"Bah," said the oldest woman. "A lamask petticoat worked with pink so extraordinary is its appearance that three tons; the tusks are of large size, looped up with garlands of them, and to the casual visitor; while to the casual visitor; while to the round eight inches across the curve, nine large weight of the coach-anthem caused them to draw up on one hath supped with us." Then she hobbled away faster than ever and the poor boy kept on. Then

that it is largely used in the making of shields, helmets, whips, and other articles. In ridiculous contrast to the enormous body are its small pointed ears and its tiny flat tail. Except for the stout bristles on face, neck, and tail the skin is bare and smooth. Each leg has four almost equally well developed toes, all of which rest on the ground, showing an even more primitive condition than that found in swine to which the hippopotamus is closely related; for in pigs the lateral pair of hoofs are considerably smaller than the middle pair, and when their owner is walking on a hard surface they do not touch the ground.

THE "HIPPO'S" TOES. Thus in the matter of toes our "hippo" is the most primitive of the

snows in Winter. So perhaps it will today. Or- it may rain tomorrow-It's really hard _ to say!_

Margery's eyes grew large, too, and twenty years old, and, by reason of her very curious, so she turned around and his dress was of the richest material, and knew who he was.

After he had passed by, the three little girls looked at each other. "Oh!" cried Rosamond, "did you see

his hat and feather?"

about the beautiful little stranger. Margery, after she had filled her with a buttercup.

she turned about with her empty great age, was considered very wise. held a buttercup underneath the boy's pitcher and followed her friends. They "Have you seen the stranger?" asked dirty chin.

The Little Stranger.

side of the way and stare with new The oldest woman twinkled her eyes family a hundred years ago." wonder. It was a most beautiful little behind her iron-bowed spectacles.

> head. "I tried him wi' a buttercup. I my head." held it under his chin, and he loves but- When the boy reached the cottage

gery said nothing. In her heart she faith in the oldest woman's opinion; kept on the shelf. ought she had never seen anyone so and so did all the other villagers. She told a good many people how the little and, turning, saw the boy, she started told a good many people how the little Then she went on to the well with stranger was a Lindsay, before she so that she let her pinafore full of her pitcher, and Rosamond and Barbara went to bed that night. And he really roses slip, and the flowers all fell out on went to bed that hight. And he really the ground. Then she dropped an The bride, the village pride was she, ular how the oldest woman divined it humble courtesy, and her mother rose

ginning to talk about the stranger to driven off in his coach-and-four as Margery. her mother, when a shadow fell across soon as he had left Margery's mother's the floor from the doorway. Margery cottage; he had only stopped to have looked up. for joy. some defect in the wheels remedied. "Ah, you remember me," he said "There he is now!" cried she in a But there had been time enough for a twixt smiles and tears. great excitement to be stirred up in the Then he entered the cottage, and The pretty boy stood there indeed, popular estimation, a maliy fairy while Margery and her mother got

boy. His golden curls hung to his "Lawks!" said she But she did not ever and the poor boy kept on. Then with a buttercup. "Thou beest a Lindshoulders, his sweet face had an ex- wish to appear surprised, so she went he met the schoolmaster, who had his pression at once gentle and noble, and or to say she had met him on the way, new poem in a great roll in his hand. and the Lindsays all did. I know, for mus is found only in Africa; although He led a little flossy white dog by a ribbon.

"He's a Lindsay," said the oldest tered he, gazing at him with disgust. woman, with a nod of her white-capped "He hath driven a fine metaphor out of As for the

love butter. I know, for I was nurse in the dame was sitting in the door spinning and the little girl was picking "And his lace vandyke, and the fluffy white dog!" cried Barbara. But Margery and her mother had to fill a tall china mug which they

and courtested also, though she had pitcher, went home also; and was be- The pretty child had straightway not recognized her guest as soon as

The poor little stranger fairly wept

looking in modestly and wishfully. prince.

Margery's mether arose at once from When Margery and the other chil-told his pitiful story.

