

habit of work, retiring means simply a change of work; so now in a fruitful garden he bends his back to till the soil, train the errant vine in the way it should go, and do the thousand and one things to be done in gardening, an occupation first carried on by a remote ancestor of his "In the green fields of Eden."

Venice, a tract of land partially covered with salt water and lying along the coast, was acquired by a gentleman whose renown is indicated by his title, "The Cigarette King." He dug a lot of canals which drained the remainder of the land, put in forty or fifty handsome cement bridges, built a number of palaces imitating those of Venice, including "The Bridge of Sighs," and its palace and prison on either hand, and called the place after the water-embraced city of the Adriatic. The place is given over to all kinds of fantastic games and dances, and appliances for inducing winter tourists to part with their nickels, and do absurd and grotesque feats they would not dream of at home. For instance, I paid a dime for the privilege of a fifteen-minutes rides with some other kids ranging in age from six to sixty, among the maizy marshes of Venice on a train of cars something larger than a soap box and of a similar school of architecture, a feat I would not have dreamed of attempting in prim Vancouver even had the management given me a season's ticket. Phonographs grind out grand opera, brass bands play night and day, the "barkers" keep up a constant chatter as to their respective shows, and joining in and drowning this everlasting clamor is the booming of the surf, saying "Ye are but creatures of the day but we have been giving out our music since the morning stars sang together." The whole scene brought to mind a passage in Pilgrim's Progress wherein it reads, "And I came to a Great City the name of which was Vanity Fair." Near Venice the trolley car stops and we are all invited to spend half an hour on the beach gathering moonstones. We indulge in this semi-marine adventure with varied suc-