B. LOVERIN

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Local Notes

Mr. and Mrs. S. Boyce spent Christ as in Smith's Falls.

Mr. Alfred Layng is renewing ac

Athens this week. Mr. Mort. Lee of Carleton Place spent Christmas with his parents here. Miss E. Gallagher of Newboro is

visiting ber cousin, Miss Maud Wiltse.

Mrs. P. Y. Merrick and son, Arthur, are visiting friends in Oak Leaf

Miss Gertie Johnston, teacher, of Rockport is home for her Christmas Mr. and Mrs. Almeron Wilson and

family have returned home from Delta for the winter. Mrs. M. A. Everts and son are spend-

ing Christmas week with friends in nith's Falls

Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Stafford of Prescott spent Christmas with friends in Messrs. L. M. Smith and F. J. Mer-

rick called on friends in Athens during their holidays. Mr. W. M. Stevens and daughter,

Miss. Mae, of Ottawa, spent Christmas with relations in Athens.

Mr. S. P. Manhard having finished his contract with Gilbert Bros. of Seeley's Bay, has returned to Athens. Miss A. Adrain, a resident of West ern Ontario is the guest of Mr. and

Miss Lon Stevens, teacher, of Cain-town is spending her holidays with her mother, Mrs. Levi Stevens, Athens.

Miss Bessie Wright, assistant ana at Ottawa, spent Christmas with her parents at the Rectory. lyst in the Inland Revenue departm

Mr. Mack Kelly arrived in Athens from Uncle Sam's domain and is spending his holidays with his parents 1. and Mrs. A. W. Kelly.

Found, on the road near Elbe, a small log chain lately repaired. Owner can have same by calling at Reporter office and paying for this adv't.

Mr. C. C. Slack of Montreal arrived in Athens on Monday, having put his brushes to soak while he discussed Christmas goose with his family at

Mr. Burton Brown, divinity student, who is in charge of an appointment at Dalling, P. Q., is home for vacation. He conducted the service in the Methodist church on Sunday evening.

On Thursday evening last, several Athenians drove to Wiltsetown and attended a very enjoyable school entertainment which was held there.

Miss Tennant has resigned her posi tion on the teaching staff of the model school and is to be succeeded by Miss Mincie Morcis. Miss Tennant has given the best of satisfaction as a teacher in Athens, and the pupils of her form testified their regard for her on Thursday by presenting her with a lady's companion accompanied with an appropriate address.

A number of young people repaired to the home of Mr. Henry Hollings worth at Elbe Mills on Friday evening last and were pleasantly entertained.

The large and handsomly finished curing room in Mr. Hollingsworth's cheese factory was placed at the disposal of the guests and some excellent music provided, and the company passed the time in dancing until an early hour.

The storekeepers of Athens on Christmas eve, though tired and worn with their hard day's work, mostly wore a look which denoted satisfaction the state of affairs. The crowd rchasers on Saturday and Mony, though not so large as it has been some years at Christmas time, seemed to be decidedly a buying crowd, and he number of pounds of peanuts, mixcandies and Christmas confectionery sed of, to say nothing of the large

n the dry goods and other lines,

Rear Yonge and Escott Cornel).

special meeting, called by the of the council of Rear Yonge and Electrowas held in the town hall, Monday, 24th inst. at 7 m. The members were al

on signed by 20 of the elec had signed the petition askcouncil to submit a local option ing the by law to a vote of the township elect s laid before the council. ition requested that no further e taken on the local option bylaw and that it be re-considered.

On motion, the prayer of the petition was granted and the original petition was laid over until such time as the council of the village submit a bylaw to prohibit the sale of intoxic ting liquor in Athens.

The publication of the by law in the Athens Reporter of Dec 26th was recalled, and the clerk was instructed to give notice that there would be no poll on the said by law on January 7th 1901. The council then adjourned.

R. E. CORNELL, Clerk.

FIGURES AND EYES.

An Indication of Advancing As-That Admits of No Compromise

"As we grow older," remarked the man who was doing that at the rate of a week every seven days, "we begin to observe that we seem to need more light when we read or that the print of the newspaper that we have been reading with ease for ever so many years is not quite as good as it used to be, or that we can distinguish the letters a little better if we hold them farther away than usual, but we are very slow indeed to observe that the real cause of it is that we are growing old. and we rather resent the suggestion of some kindly friend that

"We resent glasses especially be cause they are the visible sign of our weakness, and all the world may know by them what we fondly think they have not yet discovered-to wit, that our eyesight is failing. I am that way myself, or was, and I stood the glasses off as long as I could, and really I could get along very well reading almost any type. Of course, I could not make out every letter, but I could get enough to complete the word, and of-tentimes I could supply whole words that were indistinct by the sense of what I was reading.

"But it was the figures that got me down at last. Ah, those figures! There is no context there, and when I saw dates or numerals of any kind the blur of the years shut out all their outlines and to save me I could not tell what was before me. I made mistakes so often in reading aloud to my wife that she would laugh at me, though she ever caught me on the letters, not withstanding many was the time guessed at about thalf I was reading But figures wou not stand any fooling like that, a at last I acknowledged that it wasn't the type or the paper or the light or anything of that sort and got myself a pair of glasses. tell a figure as well as a let ter, and I discover they are printed quite as plainly as ever, though I was sure they were blurred before."

ROSE TO THE OCCASION.

The American Girl, as Usual, Man

aged to Win the Trick. A man who is back from a visit to Paris and Germany is telling a story which ought to make the great American eagle flap his wings with pride. It happened at a little railway station Germany, Grunenwald by name, while the man who tells about it was waiting for a train on a branch line that place. Besides himself there were at the station a party of American tourists of the kind you read about in English books and an English family of the kind you read about in Ameri can books. The Americans were loud voiced and ungrammatical. They laughed a great deal and they ate peaches, the stones of which they threw at a post to test their marksmanship. They were persons for whom Uncle Sam himself would have felt apologetic, and they displeased the haughty British materfamilias greatly. To the younger members of her family, a boy and a lanky and "leggy girl of the typical elongated English variety-they were objects of great in terest, however, and the girl in particular edged nearer and nearer, to her mother's great disgust. At last she was so near that mamma could endure it no longer.
"Clara!" she called in her loudest

voice, "come away at once. You might be mistaken for one of those disgusting Americans."

A pretty young American looked up and swept Clara from head to foot with a calm glance. Then she went

"Don't worry, madam," she called out cheerily. "There's no danger of that—with them feet!"

He Despised Tobacco. The healthful or reverse action of to bacco has been an absorbing question for decades and one hard to settle. Emerson, cautious as he was, was once drawn into a discussion on the subject and, being a nonuser of the weed, was an ardent advocate of its abolition as

a marketable commodity.
"Did you ever think about the logic of stimulants?" he asked. "Nature supplies her own. It is astonishing what she will do if you give her a chance. In how short a time the gentle excita tion of a cup of tea is needed! Conversation is an excitant, and the series of intoxications it creates is healthful. But tobacco, tobacco-what rude crowhar is that with which to pry into the

delicate tissues of the brain.

ZEB IN A TIGHT FIX.

HAD A KEG OF MOONSHINE IN HIS ARMS WHEN HE MET A BEAR.

What Followed and the Conclusion All Over Are Graphically Told by

[Copyright, 1900, by C. B. Lewis.] "I was reckonin to go in with so of the men on a moonshine still," said the old possum hunter, "but the old woman raised sich a fuss about it that I had to give it up. She jest sulked and cried and acted up fur a hull week, and she couldn't sleep nights fur think in of them revenew fellers. When they got the still runnin, they wanted somebody to carry the kegs over the mount'in to market, and they coaxed me into the job. It was a trip of fo'teen miles, and, of co'se, it had to be made at night. I dasn't let the old woman know what I was doin, but as I had to hev an excuse to be out I told her I was coon huntin. I'd bin out three or fo' nights when she turns on

me and says:
"'How about them coons, Zeb? Yo've bin out every night since Sunday, but yo' hain't dun brung back a

"'Coons is mighty shy this time of "'Oh, that's it! Coons jest keep right

away from yo', do they?' 'Pears like they do, but I'm hopin to strike a big lot of 'em all to once "'Waal, Zeb White, yo' mind what I tell yo'.' says she as she looks straight



'I RUN UP AG'IN SUNTHIN IN THE DARKNESS. through me. 'Yo' jest keep right on coon huntin, and yo'll find a coon soonor later, and it'll turn out a mighty

bad find fo' yo'.' "Then I knowed she s'pected what I was up to, but as she didn't say nuthin mo' I didn't. That night when I went over to the still I felt a little skittish. The old woman's words had kind of skéered me. Them revenew fellers was around lookin fur stills, and I was liable to run across 'em in the woods any time. If they ketched me with a keg of moonshine on my shoulder, it meant a year in prison fur me fur suah. When Jim Harper found I was skit-

'If it's got to that p'int whar Zeb White, the celebrated b'ar killer and possum hunter of Tennessee, has beome afraid of rabbits, then he'd better stay home of nights and play check-

"Then Bill Hope chips in and says it's wonderful that a man who has killed a wildcat with a club should be afraid of woodchucks. The other two mer laughed at me and said I was gittin and feeble, and, of co'se, the r'iled me and made me determined to go. It was about 10 o'clock when slung a keg of moonshine on my shoulders and sot out. It wasn't a cloudy night, but a man wanted the eyes of a cat to foller the paths over the hills and through the bresh. I tried to think it was all right, but the old woman's words kept comin back to me, and l felt my knees grow weak as I scuffed along. I was jest about half way over the hills and had sot down to rest when I heard a h'ar sniffin in the bresh. The noise he made was a sort of sniff-snuff. with a 'woof' at the end of it. That's the way a b'ar allus does when he smells a man at night.

"'Look yere, Zeb White,' says I to myself as that b'ar kept comin nearer 'if yo' ain't in a scrape then I'll eat my butes. In the darkness and over these hills yo' can't run fur shucks, and how yo' gwine to fight a b'ar bare handed?

"Vo' het I wished I had headed the old woman, but it was too late then. I thought the best way was to git up and go along and give that varmint a cold bluff, but I was tremblin all over as I made forward. I tried to whistle but my lips was dry as paper. I start ed to sing, but my own voice skeered me. I was movin along slow and hop in the b'ar would take the bluff when I run up ag'in sunthin in the darkness I put out my hand and felt the fur of a b'ar, but I hadn't more'n teched him when sunthin hit me 'longside the head. and I went head over heels down hill and into the bushes. It was as if a mule had kicked me on the ear, and I had jest sense 'nuff to wonder how it would feel when the critter begun to tear me to pieces. I heard him snuffir and snuffin and movin around, but he didn't come to me, and bimeby I heard

him movin away.
"When I went head over heels, I lost the keg. I didn't stop to look fur it when the b'ar moved off, but I crawled back to the path and started off. I was feelin the thankfulest man in Tennessee, though my head felt as big as a bar'l, when somebody grabbed me and flashed a light in my face. True as you live, I had run ag'in three reveew fellers who was hidin and waitin fur me.

"'Good evenin. Zeb White,' said one of 'em as they made suah it was me.

"The same, says I. bullin myself SPOILED THEIR RAID. together as hard as I could.

Out fur a leetle walk this evenin? " 'I be.' "'Nice evenin to walk. Mebbe yo've bin pickin wild flowers? By the way,

whar's the keg of moonshine? "I jest bluffed 'em right down," said old man, with a grim smile. the keg was gone and they couldn't tech me, I wasn't afraid to talk. threatened and bulldezed, but I stuck to it that I was lookin fur coons, and they dasn't hold me. Bimeby I started fur home. I was mighty narvus about mo' b'ars, but I got home without see in any. The old woman was sittin up readin the Bible, and she looks up and quietly says:

'Yo're home ahead of time, Zeb. Is coons skeerce tonight?

"Mighty skeerce." "'Did yo' see any 'tall?"

"'I jest met one.'
"'I see yo' did, and he fetched yo' that clip on the ear and sent yo' home. I reckoned yo'd meet up with coon if yo' kept on. Better wash off

the blood and rub in some possum's

"And while I was doin it," said the old man in a whisper, "I heard the old woman gigglin softly to herself and ax her no questions, bekase I'd made fool of myself, but do yo' know what I've allus thought? Say, now, but I lieve that b'ar in the path was my old woman! Yes sah, I believe she put on b'arskin we had in the house and sneaked out into the woods to meet me, and when I got close up to her she fetched me a whack with s club. I dun believe it, suh, but as it saved me from them revenew fellers and state's prison I was much obleeged to her and didn't raise no row.'

THE SCHEME WORKED. A Scheme by Which Brown Quieted

To be perfectly honest. Brown does not go to his Griswold street office every night that he tells his wife he s going there. The business which he says is pressing is frequently imaginary and the man whom he is going meet does not exist. He belongs to a club, and clubs have their attrac tions. He thought that his wife was growing suspicious, and Brown is re

On the evening in question, as the lawyers would say, he told her that there was a matter of business that could not possibly be deferred until the next day. About 9 o'clock she answer-'phone and was asked if Brown was at home, and she replied that he

"Guess not," was the alarming re-"I was just down there and

all looked dark ' She rang off viciously, if women ever do such things, ordered a coupe, told the driver to go as fast as the ordinance allows, kept taking on temper as she went and flew up stairs to the office as though a mouse were in hot pursuit. Her husband met her smilingly, insisted that she had given him a delightful surprise, put his easiest per and apologized for having to re him till 3. She could not explain, she could not keep awake, she was asham ed of herself, and after lamely telling him that she had dreamed that he was Ill she left.

In ten minutes he was at the club and shook hands with a man who smilingly asked if the scheme worked He replied that it was as good as ready money for at least 60 days, and then ach bought a stack of chips that pass in the night.

A King's Fear of Woman's Beauty. one power in the world, the power of beauty: only a handsome woman could boast of making him quail-she put him to flight. He said; roes have succumbed to the attractions of a beautiful face! Did not Alexan der, my pet, burn a town to please a ridiculous adventuress? I want my life to be free from such weakness history must not find such a stain upor

He was told one day that a young girl had come to sue for justice on be half of a blind octogenarian father maltreated by soldiers. The first in-clination of the king, a strict disciplinarian, was to rush straight to the plain tiff, to hear the details of the misde-meanor for himsen, but suddenly stopning he asked. "Is she good looking?" And being assured that she was both very young and unusually lovely, he sent word that she must wear a veil, otherwise he would not listen to her.

The National Emblem. The Presbyterian Review tells of Scottish minister who reminded the Lord in a prayer, "For, as thou know

est, men do not gather grapes of thorns

nor figs of the national emblem." "This delicate reference to the this tle as the national emblem of Scotland is delicious," says The Review, "but how it would have surprised the writers of the four gospels!"

"It's always dangerous to jump at conclusions." said the careful man.
"You're liable to make yourself ridicu-

ous, to say the least."
"That's right," replied the Jersey commuter. "I jumped at the conclusion of a ferryboat once and missed

Strong cheese is recommended in moderation; it is suitable to those who suffer from "nerves," for it acts as sedative, but if eaten to excess its effects are not good.

Fools acquire wisdom and loafers go

THE CADETS HAD A LAUGH AT THE OFFICERS' EXPENSE.

How a Billiard Table Was Smuggled Into the Barracks at West Point and the Story of Its Accidental

There are many traditions and stories of escapades at the Military academy at West Point that are handed down from class to class, and one of the most interesting of these is that relating to the billiard table. Shortly after the civil war the cadets, always in the alert for some new scheme for amusement, decided that they would like to have a billiard table and accordingly organized a billiard club. A collection was taken up with which to purchase a table, and a suitable place was sought in which to set it up. Until the present steam heating apparatus was installed in the cadet about 30 years or more ago, the heating was by means of furnaces. The basement of the sixth division of the barracks was used for coal bins, the bins being so arranged that there was a large one near the center of the building, which could only be reached by passing through one of the others. After considering all available places this coal bin was finally selected as being the place least liable to detection, for it must be remembered the table

The table was bought in New York and sent to Garrisons, across the river, for there was no West Shore railroad in those days. One cold winter night it was hauled by a team of oxen across the river on the ice and up the hill an was safely stowed away in the coal bin before morning. The table was soon set up and became a source of great enjoyment to the cadets. A keg of beer was always kept on tap, and lamps were hung from the ceiling, giving the room a cheery appearance The members of the club used to gather there at all hours of the day and night, when their presence was not required elsewhere by their duties, and sit around smoking, drinking and telling stories while two of them played billiards.

The authorities soon became aware that there was a billiard table somewhere in the barracks, for they could hear the balls clicking together, but they could not find it. The cadets continued to enjoy the privileges of the billiard club for more than a year.

Finally one night soon after midnight, as two officers were returning from a convivial evening at the mess they saw two cadets, clad in their underclothing and dressing gowns, emerge from the north sallyport and disappear down the steps to the area way in front of the barracks. Instant the thought of the billiard table flashed through the minds of the two officers, and they started quietly after the cadets. On reaching the basement doorway of the sixth division the two cadets entered, and the officers, arriving a moment later, saw them climb over a pile of coal and enter an open door, through which came sounds laughter and conversation and the clicking of balls, while the air was la-

den with fragrant tobacco smoke The officers paused for a moment and held a whispered consultation. Finally deciding that they would tell the other officers of their discovery and have all of them come down the following night and enjoy the fun of a raid on the club, they withdrew and went home. Next day all the officers at the post were informed of the dis covery, and it was arranged that the

raid should occur at midnight. All might have gone well, and the officers might have had their little fun. had it not been that there were three cadets the previous night instead of two. The third had forgotten his pipe and had gone back for it, while the other two went on and were discovered by the officers. The third, coming along a moment later, saw the officers and quietly followed them, observing all their movements and listening to their whispered conversation.

When they withdrew, he went in and told the members of the club all he had heard and seen. The cadets at once realized that it was all up with the club, but they determined to have a laugh at the expense of the officers Accordingly all arrangements were made before the club adjourned that night.

The next night the officers met as arranged and crept stealthily down the reaway and into the sixth division. Hearing no sound of clicking balls ome became skeptical and concluded the whole thing was a hoax, but nevertheless they pushed on and climbed over the pile of coal. Opening the door, they were greeted with a glow of light, but still no sound. On entering they found the room deserted, but there were the billiard table, an almost untouched keg of beer, several pounds of tobacco, some chairs and lastly a note on the table, addressed to the officers on duty at West Point. The note was to the effect that as the officers of the post had been so kind as to permit the club to continue its existence for more than a year it desired to present to them (the officers) the table and al its appurtenances, as it was deemed expedient to wind up the club's affairs. The note was signed "The Executive Committee."

The officers of course, were much chagrined at being thus outwitted by the cadets. Nevertueless the table was removed to the officers' mess and, ac cording to tradition, is the one still in use there.

Pra child with such Parke-I pever solv remarkable nemory for names as

mine has. Laue How do sen a ount for it? Farke-Think of the nurses she h AN INSPIRATION.

It Sho wed the Bashful Youth a Hap-"It's a go," announced the young man with beaming face, "and the happy day has been set!"

"So you got your courage up to the point at last?" said the friend who inderstood the situation.

"Yes. Say, it isn't hard when yo get started. But it is a wonder didn't get nervous prostration before made the plunge! I was six months trying to get courage enough to ask the all important question. But every time that I opened my mouth to speak I simply broke out into a cold sweat and couldn't say a word for the life of me. I would have retreated a dozen times bag and baggage if I could have done so gracefully. Not that I didn't want the girl, but simply for the reason that I despaired of ever being able to ask her to be mine. The girl acted, too, as if she had a right to hear som thing to the point. But I could only sit there like a chuckle headed idiot and abuse the weather. I would have been right there in the same horrible situation if something hadn't happened to break the ice.

"One night last week we were sitting of those blissful moments when nothing was being said I chanced to notice the girl's eves intently fixed upon a motto that hung on the wall opposite and which read, 'Love One Another.' before, but it gave me an inspiration over and murmured, 'Shall we?' and she murmured 'I don't mind,' and it was all over but the

shouting!" ONE ON HIS FATHER.

Smart Youth Is Caught. Then Vic-

The 12-year-old son of a Van Buren treet fond parent recently became the proud possessor of some guines nigs. day or two after the same were safely correlled in a case he went about bragging of his new acquisition among his playmates. Now it seems these youngsters knew of a "sell" which guinea pigs play a prominent part. They started to "hook" the youngster and caught him fast and

He felt so had about it that he started in turn to "sell" some one else. His father was the victim. "Did you know, papa, that if you

hold a guinea pig by the tail its eyes will drop out? His father laughed outright.

"Why, who in wonder told you such "The boys all say that," answered

Louis, sober as a judge, "and it's so,

laughing. "Well, you go to the cage and hold one up and you'll see."

Just to humor the boy the father went out. In a moment he came back

looking-well, looking just like a man that's been badly sold. "The little rascal got me that time," e replied to a friend.

"But I don't see the point," said the friend "Don't you?"

"Well, guinea pigs have no tails."-

How many of us while using magic interns have wondered how they were first made? Indeed they are of very respectable antiquity. As early as the seventeenth century a Jesuit named very crude affair, and as he was not unwilling to excite the fears of the persons who witnessed his exhibitions e called it a "magic" lantern, and so

it has always been called. lantern was in use even earlier than the seventeenth century and that the mysterious figures which the old astrologers produced in the smoke of their mystic fires were produced in the same way as Kircher produced his, the smoke hiding the lantern

"The Thorn Comes Forth

With Point Forward."

The thorn point of disease is an ache or pain. But the blood is the feeder of the whole body. Purify it with Hood's Sarsaparilla.

Kidneys, liver and stomach will at

once respond? No thorn in this point. Severe Pains—"I had severe pains in my stomach, a form of neuralgia. My mother urged me to take Hood's Sarsaparilla and it made me well and strong. I have also given it to my baby with satisfactory results. I am glad to recommend Hood's Sarsaparilla to others." Mrs. JOHN LA PAGE, 240 Church St., Toronto, Ont. Complete Exhaustion—"After treatment in hospital, I was weak, hardly able to walk. My blood was thin. I took Hood's Sarsaparilla until well and gained 20 lbs. It also benefited my wife." ARTHUR MILLS, Dresden, Ont.



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