y little man, comatell to me,
you could by some magic be
To the unknown fairyland transplanted,
Where boys may have their wishes

Where boys may have the granted,
granted,
hat would your wishes be?"
'd wish"—he sideways cooked his head,
judwich, and paused, and then he said:
'd wish I had two brothers—
One great big one and one I could
lick;
That nothin' never'd make me sick,
nd eight or nine grandmothera."
—[Indianapolis Journal.

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ANCIENT ELEPHANT PARADES. ANCIENT ELEPHANT PARADES.

It was in the processions and pageants hat elephants made the finest appearince, fitted with magnificent trappings, and marching slowly along, as if concious of their fine looks. One of the loot remarkable shows was that at the redding of Vizier Ali, in 1795. Here welve hundred elephants were in line, all richly costumed. Of these one hundred had howdahs, or castles, covered with silver, while in the center sat the nabob upon a very large elephant whose lowdah was covered with gold set with

nabob upon a viry No.

nabob upon to viry No.

nowth was covered with gold set with
lewels.

The delity parade of the elephants of
the court of Jehanghir was a wonderful
display. The elephants were bedecked
with precious stones, chains of gold and
silver, gilt banners and flags. The first
elephant, called the Lord Elephant, had
the plates of his head and breast set with
rubies and emeralds, and as he passed
the king he turned, dropped upon his
knees, and trumpeted loudly—not in
loval fraine of mind, exactly, but because
the driver pricked him with a sharp prod
just at the right time. Silly people, however, believed that the elephant was
showing respect for the king.

To-day, the elephant is still used in
India in pageants, as a laborer, especially in the lumber districts, where it is
taught to carry long timbers, and, as has
been said, forms a corps in the British
army; but in active warfare it is now
useful only in a few cases, and can never
the employed so frequently as in ancient
times.—[St. Nicholas.

BEE MADENS OF FRANCE.

BER MAIDENS OF FRANCE.

Apropos the article on bees fertilizing plants is the following interesting account of what are known in France as the bee-maidens," taken from Harper's

count of what are known in France as the bee-maidens," taken from Harper's Young People:

Near the little town of La Ferte, in France, there is an apple-tree which bears only imperfect blossoms; and the fact having long ago been discovered, has given rise to a very beautiful custom among the maidens of the village.

When spring-time comes, and the appletree hails the joyous time with a glad burst of blossoms, the maidens of the village arm themselves with gay ribbons and perfect blossoms from their favorite trees, and go singing to the lonely tree which has produced only the imperfect blossoms. Each girl then kisses a cluster of the imperfect blossoms, and in so doing dusts the former with the pollen from the latter. She then ties a distinguishing ribbon near to the cluster she had dusted.

The tree looks very gay when thus decorated, with the pink blossoms smiling up at heaven, and the dainty ribbons fluttering in the perfume-laden air; but the best of it is when the petals drop like "summer snow," and the littles apples begin to shape. Then the maidens pluck off all but the best fruit, and let that take all the strength of the tree, so that the apples grow Immously and come to the office of the service of the strength of the tree, so that the apples grow Immously and come to the office of the service of the service of the service of the strength of the strange part of the service of the serv

the apples grow famously and come to perfection.

And new is seen the strange part of the affair; the apples, instead of being all of one kind, are as different as the blossoms that kissed their blossoms, the fact being that the apple is exactly like the apple on the tree from which the pollen-bearing blossom was taken.

So on this one tree will be seen round rosy-cheeked apples, long yellow apples, juicy apples, mealy apples, dainty little apples, and "monstrous big" apples. Each maiden has the apple she wished the most.

the most.

A BOY'S NEW IDEA.

A nov's NEW IDEA.

An Indian boy belonging to the Sioux tribe at Pine Ridge, South Dakota, has a pair of pets which are not only strange and interesting, but are useful as well. These are two large bald eagles.

The young Indians here are fond of hunting, but are not allowed to own or carry guns, and the result is that they are compelled to use the bow and arrow, which they nea with great contents. are compelled to use the now and arrow, which they use with great expertness. The boy shot an old eagle and wounded it. It flew to its nest, and he followed until he saw where the home of the bird was. He then killed the wounded bird, and waited until its mate appeared, and also billed it.

killed it.

Climbing to the nest, he found two young ones which he took home with him and began a course of training which has resulted in his having the birds so fully under control that they come and go at his command.

He takes them out, and when he states are approximately turns his when he sights any quarry he turns his eagles loose, after fastening their beaks so that they cannot eat the animal, and the birds immediately give chase and bring down the prey.—[Boston Globe.

To Clean Coral.

The following is a good way for clean-ing corals: First, soak them in soda and water for some hours; then make a lather water for some nours; then make a latter of some and with a soft, hairy brush rub the certals lightly, letting the brush enter



ONE ENJOYS Both the method and results when Both the metaot and results when Syrup of Figs is taken; it is pleasant and refreshing to the taste, and acts gently yet promptly on the Kidneys, Liver and Bowels, cleaness the sys-Liver and Bowels, cleaness the sys-tem effectually, dispels colds, head-aches and fevers and cures habitual constipation. Syrup of Figs is the only remedy of its kind ever pro-duced, plessing to the taste and ac-ceptable to the stomach, prompt in its action and truly beneficial in its effects, prepared only from the most healthy and agreeable substances,

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BUMBLE BEES.

The Purpose They Serve in the Order of Nature.

Considerable numbers of bumble bees have recently been imported from Europe into Australia and New rom Europe into Austrana and New Zealand. Hitherto growers of red clover in these countries have been obliged to obtain seed for planting each year from England, because this grown preduced re-seed for lack of cach year from England, because this crop produced no seed, for lack of bumble bees to fertilize the blossoms. Bumble bees find in red clover their favorite diet; and without their aid

favorite diet; and without their aid in distributing pollen this plant would soon perish off the face of the earth. Linding it very expensive to import their red clover seed annually, the farmers of these countries decided to import bumble bees for themselves.

Accordingly a lot were taken while in the hibernating stage, during cold weather, packed in moss and carried over the ocean in the refrigerator compartment of a ship. They were set loose on arrival, and already they have multiplied so numerously in that set loose on arrival, and already they have multiplied so numerously in that part of the world that it is feared they will become a nuisance by consuming all the flower juices which the honey bees require for their own purposes. It seems to be the same way with every sort of animal introduced into Australia. Invariably the beast, bird or insect proceeds at once to flourish to such an extent as to upset the normal balance of creation.

Bumble bees are generally supposed

the normal balance of creation.

Bumble bees are generally supposed to be of no particular use in the world. It is not their fault. They are active and industrious honey gatherers, but they are never enough of them in one colony to make a store worth taking. When winter comes the queen bumble bee seeks a place in the ground for hiding safely during the cold months. She finds such a spot beneath moss, or perhaps in a heap of leaves. There she hibernates comfortably, remaining tast asleep until

beneath moss, or perhaps in a heap of leaves. There she hibernates comportably, remaining fast asleep until spring arrives. The warm sun of approaching summer awakens her and she crawls out.

Immediately she looks about her for a nest suitable to breed in. An old nest vacated by field mice serves her purpose admirably. Having settled upon quarters, she begins collecting pollen from the flowers, storing it away in two pockets which she carries on her hind legs. Into the nest chosen she puts the pollen and goes for more, fetching load after load, until she has formed a ball of pollen perhaps as much as an inch in diameter. In the ball of pollen she lays her eggs, and after a few days they are hatched, bringing forth little worm-like larvæ.

Into nearly the end of the sum-

she lays her eggs, and after a few days they are hatched, bringing forth little worm-like larvæ.

Up to nearly the end of the summer the queen lays only worker eggs—that is to say eggs which produce females which are undeveloped sexually. They are the honey-gathering and comb-building class. When autumn is coming on, however, she produces males—called drones. At the same period, also, she lays eggs which give birth to full developed, females, all of which are destined to be queens the following year. These females mate with drones, and thus are rendered able to reproduce their series next season. From six to twelve of the future queens are turned out by each hive. When cold weather arrives they crawl into snug places, where they hibernate during the winter, gathering pollen in the spring, and laying their eggs in it. Thus is completed the cycle of their species. Only

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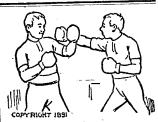
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