"Why, professor! Why are you wearing ear muffs on the street on a bot day like this?"

"O, I forgot to take them off! Our beby makes such a noise all the time at home!"

### The Unexpected.

The judge was about to pass sen tence upon the condemned man. "In view of certain contingent circumstances," he said, "I'm inclined to

treat you with leniency." A veiled woman who was sitting at a little distance suddenly burst into tears.

"Are you the prisoner's wife?" his honor inquired.

The woman could only nod. "I think that in view of all these mitigating influences," the judge resumed, "I will fix three years-"

The veiled woman suddenly gasped "It ain't half enough, judge; it ain't half epough!" she wildly shrieked.

Supporting the Aristocracy. Senator Tillman, discussing international marriages the other day, said pertinently: "What are we coming to?" A friend

o' mine, an arrant foe to monarchies roared out in a speech last week: "Downtrodden as they are abroad, I still fail to understand how they can endure to be taxed to support idle, ex-

travagant and dissolute royal families." "Then my friend wiped his heated brow, and, hurrying home, sent in a stock assessment of \$16,000 in order to help the president of the Dash railroad purchase a titled son-in-law."

## Royalty on Exhibition.

In the eighteenth century the Londoner could look at royalty on Suning at the side door and slipping a shilling for each person into the band of the verger who opens it, you may have admittance and stand during divine service in presence of their majesties; and for one shilling each part of which was the woman he person more, you may sit in their roy- loved! This thought reiterated itself al presence, not in pews, but in turn- through Guy's mind as he passed down

Sheer white goods, in fact, any 7 ne wash goods when new, owe much of what of her father? Insane, perhaps, their attractiveness to the way they are laundered, this being done in a manner to enhance their textile beauty, Home laundering would be equally satisfactory if proper attention was given to starching, the first essentia! being good Starch, which has sufficient. strength to stiffen, without thickenin; the goods. Try Defiance Starch and yor will be pleasantly surprised at the improved appearance of your work.

Waiting for His Little Airship. The birds were flying south. Presently they espied a lone robin perched

on a lofty limb. "Come on," they cried, "and join the bunch."

But the robin perked his head on one side and shock it vigorously. "What are you waiting for?" they

"I'm waiting," replied the robin. "for one of these daffy little airship chappies to blow along and then menby I can sneak a ride.'

Not That Brand of Breakfast Food.

a hote here?" cept-of-a-substitute warning is issued. | turn!

seized upon him. "We haven't any of that, sir." he replied, "but I can bring you some corn-flakes."

F. Mith a smooth fron and Defiance Toldh, you can launder your shirt-North just as well at home as the Mr. Maundry can; it will have the prepastiffness and finish, there will ne less wear and tear of the goods. and it will be a positive pleasure to use a Starch that does not stick to the

Good Work.

"His brains earn him his living." "Pais! I've read his stuff in all the magazines, and there's no sense in any

"I know it, but think how smart he is to get it in all the magazines?"

The Probable Reason. "Papa, why do brides wear long

velis?"

"To conceal their satisfact don, I presume, my son."-Smart Set.

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"Vanishing Fleets," a story of "what night have happened." opens in Wash-ngton with the United States and Japan on the verge of war. Guy Hillier, sec-etary of the British embassy, and Miss Norma Roberts, chief aide of Inventor Roberts, are introduced as lovers. The government is much criticised because of its lack of preparation for strife. At the most inopportune moment Japan loclares war. Japan takes the Philippines without loss of a man. The en-aire country is in a state of turmoil beause of the government's indifference Juy Hillier starts for England with Juy Hillier starts for England with secret message and is compelled to leave Norma Roberts, who with military officers also leaves Washington on mysterious expedition for an isolated point on the Florida coast. Hawaii is captured by the Japs Country, in turmoil, demands explanation of policy from government. All ports are closed, Hillier going to England on last boat. England learns that Jap fleet is fast approaching western coast of America.

CHAPTER IV.-Continued. The prime minister, as if recognizing their informant's plight, in a

friendly tone of voice said: "Mr. Hillier, I presume you are tired after your journey and would like to rest before any further discussion of this subject. I would suggest that you go to your chambers and return here tomorrow." "What sense is there in his re-

turning?" came the angry question of the lord of the admiralty, as the secday for a modest fee. In a guide to retary bowed himself out of the room. London, published in 1767, it was said: "He doesn't even know, I presume, "At St. James' chapel royal by knock- that Japan is already sending every available ship she has against the western coast of America as fast as steam will carry th."

Sending an invading fleet against an apparently passive country in some the corridor and out into the din and movement of the street. Where could she be now he wondered, and and incapable of offering her protec-

last-I loved wou."

In the dusk of early evening an factor when granting equality. army of countless men and wamen hurrying to the trams, the tubes and careful and his conclusions so logical, very active. He made many trips to the buses, swept past him ignorant of that reports sent to and passed upon the points where these purchases has misery. What was war to them by the elder statesmen of Japan had were made, but found them innocuous in a country thousands of miles across led them to feel certain of victory a sea and in which perhaps there was long before war was declared. Nor none bound to them by ties of affect had his predictions in the opening tion? The United States might iso events been unfulfilled. True he had ments were being sent to Miami, Fla. late itself by sea and intreach itself not expected the abandonment of the behind cordons of soldiers; but he Philippines; but he had confidently that if the government was active in would go back! Yes, he would find foretold the period of torpidity, of cona way to pass all their barriers and fusion and lack of cohesion, which had gain the side of the woman who mer- followed. It was with satisfaction. "Waiter," said the guest in a non ited his protection through her avowed therefore, that he observed the trend of the effect that the ships of the United fashionable hotel, "have you table love, and in this, her hour of need, events when hostilities were finally States were scattering out over many seemed crying out to him across the declared, and from the quietude of his The waiter considered. Then the attermost spaces of the world, be study saw the whole country waiting fever against warning the "do-not-ac seeching him to return-only to re- for the government to act while ap-

#### CHAPTER V. & Secret Paths.

Nupon, the home of the Samurai, in her adoption of newer methods, had not permitted her secret service department to remain in ancient form. Modeled on those lines which had made the intelligence bureau of Russia one of the most effective in the entire world, and profiting by the publicity given to nearly every movement dreds seeking places of refuge across of importance in the United States, the border lines north and south or had been and was taking place in the had depended upon this knowledge as a valued factor for the subjugation of crimination which made the denizens that a country capable of closing its and Chinese in one broad category as doors to the world would also find orientals; it was therefore easy for means to circumvent foreign agents. To the last minute she relied upon her man in the city of Washington, imemissaries in nearly all the larger provise a pigtail, and without inter- journey. cities of America under the direction | ruption assume to pursue this vocaof Count Seigo.

Away back in the time of the Tokugawa Shogunate, when the almost in- covered that in a situation where anvincible leader Seigo was an idol to archy might thrive the followers of the youth of Satsuma to be toppled the red flag would be his most valover only in the civil war of 1877, his uable spies. Without difficulty he son was being educated in a leading allied himself with this element, and American university. The downfall gained a friendly footing with them by of the father practically exiled the lad ostensibly favoring the advancement in the United States until family and of their cause in Russian domains. political influence had time to reas- Their confidence in him was strengthsert itself, when by progressive steps ened by the fact that he was accomhe gained the good graces of his gov- plished in their language, which he ernment and was given responsible spoke fluently, and was a liberal conpositions in affairs of state. His tributor to their treasury. knowledge of the American political Having thus ingratiated himself. POOL TABLES situation was complete and accurate, the next step was made easy. He se-

publica It had been largely through his ad. tablished a means of securing news vice that the dispute between the two that would have been impossible in in the bush, or "stations," which are with little thought of appearances. nations, tri vial in itself but porten- any other way. From his little hovel miles away from any town or village, tous in pess ibilities, had been used as he directed these men as seemed best, and their time is largely occupied with a pretext for war. Thoroughly con- assigning them to tasks of more or riding and driving; they are as much versant with congressional methods less magnitude, and paying lavishly at home on a horse as a duck is in sale every day that one grows rather in the United States, he had watched for anything of value; and to his obyear by year the quibblings of legis-lators over naval bills which usually ended in inadeq uate appropriations. scure place there came divers men darkness to the furtive. the water, and think nothing of riding skeptical about them. A curio shop uptown has in its window a comb with writer in Woman. Household duties an alliterative and alluring legend Of broader mind that they, he had Seigo's most valuable ally was one and any day they are liable to be left one of those high shell objects familiar long foreseen that a country which Meredith, of English parentage, and a without servants and with a house in old portraits, and though it is not had come into distant colonial posses man who for years resided on Cross full of visitors, but are in no wise carved, as are many specimens, the sions must of necessitive enlarge its street, Paterson, N. J., that unfor-daunted by such an occurrence. Then ard excites the interest of passers-by navy and augment its effeciency, ex- tunate city whose very industry and the bush girl comes down to the capi- likely enough some girl who had anpend money in unremitting streams peacefulness had made it the gather tal for the season, and far from ap sestors in Salem, Mass, will buy the



parently it remained somnolent.

The surrender of the islands came as the first perplexing problem for understand, and his activities prior to ships. that event were nothing when compared with those subsequent. He was too advoit ever to have appeared as a laborer in the limelight, and was therefore eminently fitted to drop from sight at the outbreak, when his fellow countrymen were leaving by hunshe was minutely informed of all that embarking on the high seas for foreign ports. Singularly enough, race country she hoped to overcome. She prejudice in the eastern states had never reached the point of acute disthe American colossus, not foreseeing of that section classify the Japanese Seigo to don the garb of a laundry-

Fertile of resource, he readily dis-

the strength and weakness of the re- these malcontents as seemed best fitted to his hands, and thereby es-

oman: Web. for maintenance, and stim ulate its ing place of the Reds. Meredith was pearing a country bumpkin or a tommen to seek individual excellence in a machinist by trade, and an employe boy after her free and open-air life, she was york Press.

in need in case of Japanese success. beneath a coat of paint, led men to strange and unusual purchases made The words of a letter which he car- believe so devoutly in American su- through many sources by the United ried in his pocket, and which to him periority that they neglected to ana. States government. In this there was was of more importance than the dis- lyze the actual power which could nothing alarming, and it was rather patches he delivered, constantly re- positively be developed. By a process | with curiosity that the astute deof elimination he estimated the fight- scendant of a Samurai looked over "It is always within the realms of ing value of the American navy, dis- these reports and vaguely wondered possibility, when war is on a land, carding wessels still in service but whether they might have bearing on that friends may never meet again. If obsolete, and others still on paper but war. He was sufficiently painstaking such should be our case, I pray that looked upon by the smsophisticated as to ask for others and check them up; you will remember this, even up to the | part of the nation's strength. Na- but in this he gained nothing beyond tional prowess he regarded as a small the certainty that the nary depart ment, while existing in a state of Seigo's observations had been so seeming stagnation, was inwardly in so far as he could reason.

As time west on, however, he found that the greater portion of these shipand was driven to the final conclusion any way at all, the key must be at the small city on the southeastern coast. News had leaked through to him to seas instead of mobilizing in western waters. More than this, Seigo learned that in all pavy yards there had been a cessation of work, whereas an increase would have seemed more reasonable, considering the unfinished which he could neither account nor state of several cruisers and battle

On first thought he attributed this latter lapse to one of the frequent changes of policy or a dearth of funds. but now, in view of these later shipments and purchases, he began to question. In Washington no news was obtainable. The administration was preserving a wooden front toward not only the world but its own people as well. Congressmen and senators knew nothing beyond the declaration of war and the empowering of the president and his cabinet in special session to act for the country, and the administration was apparently doing nothing whatever out of the regular routine of business. It was this paucity which drove the sham laundryman from his irons and away upon a

streets, his heavy leather soles clumping upon board walks and across sandy patches. It was past one o'clock in the morning, and all was still. He wandered idly along the main thoroughfare, and reached the far end of the town, before his attention was attracted by a sound from the water front, where hollowly through the stillness a steam winch was chugging and sputtering as it toiled away with its load. It brought him to a quick half and aroused in his mind a multitude of questions, because along the entire shore line of this great country no craft was now loading and none ar-

His trip south ward was accomplished with r lous ease. He bought his ticke. to Miami without being subjected to interrogation, boarded the second-class or smoking

riving, according to his knowledge. He hastily directed his steps toward the wharves, stealthily seeking the shadows of the palm trees, and stopping now and then to avoid any, chance of being observed. Lying against the pier was a small gunboat of the United States navy, which was receiving supplies, and the men at work were evidently hurrying at their utmost. The vessel had not been there during the daylight hours -of this he was certain-hence her loading at night could indicate but one thing, a desire for secrecy. His nerves keyed up in the hope of a discovery, alert and inquisitive, he crept close to the freight shed where the arc

out hindrance, and rode away in un-

disturbed solitude. No one seemed

aware or in any event to care for his

presence. There were no attempts

at conversation, except in one instance

where a good-natured southerner

hailed him with: "Hello, John! Going

to start a wash shop somewhere?"

nor was he in the least perturbed save

on an occasion when a rough

threatened to tweak his pigtail; but

even this went no further than words.

Everywhere were criticisms of the

conduct of the war and imprecations

against the administration. The Amer-

cans themselves were no more cog-

nizant than he of why soldiers had

been stretched along the border line,

ports closed, and communication cut

off. The citizens of the country itself

were as mystified as the Japanese,

and frankly thought the situation a

foolish one. In all that long journey

down the eastern ccast he learned

His delayed train dropped him of

late at night in the Florida town, and

he was compelled to seek lodging with

strangers or to sleep in the open. He

chose the latter course, and went out

below the city, across the bridge and

toward the Punch Bowl, where he

found rest beside the road till early

morning. When the first rays of the

sun were filtering through the great

trees and drenching the creepers with

light, he returned to the city, assisted

on his way by a kindly farmer who

From him he learned where the

Chinese laundries were situated; but

could gather nothing whatever con-

firming his suspicions that the govern-

ment was either in possession of a

pant at this point or even conducting

Still disguised and acting upon

what had been told him, he sought

the abode of the Chinaman, who was

already sweating over his tubs, and

found him amenable to persuasion and

desirous of giving assistance when

paid considerable sums of protection

money. His horn of plenty was a gol-

den one, but proved useless in a day of

fruitless effort, his most careful in-

quiries bringing nothing in the way

In the hope that fatigue would cure

any experiments in the vicinity.

was driving in for supplies.

nothing whatever of importance.

lights threw huge spots of white. So this accounted for the disposal of those mysterious orders which had been reported to him by Meredith and others! But where could they be bound? What was the destination of this ship which, even as he watched. was casting off her lines preparatory to sailing away into the night? (TO BE CONTINUED.)



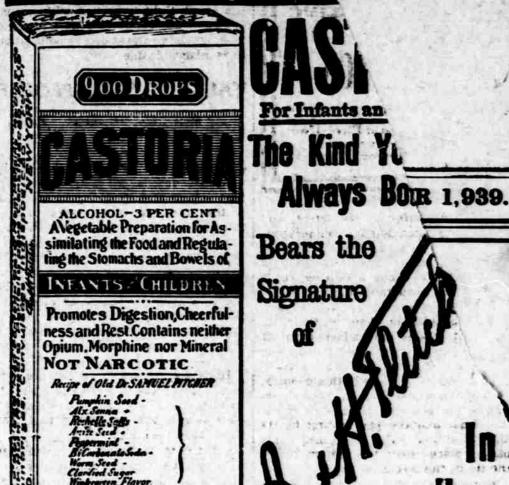
# TRAITS OF AUSTRALIAN GIRLS

room, Says Writer.

claim a share of their time, however. that it was "worn by a witch." It is

is as much at home in a ballroom as any town-bred girl, as neat and well dressed as if she had never ridden Many Australian girls live right up barebacked over wild tracts of country

Witch's Comb in a Window. So many "precious" things are on



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HAD AN EYE TO BUSINESS.

Romance Clearly Had Little to Do with Silas' Marriage.

Preston Kendall, the actor, tells a story of a ne'er-do-well in a little New England town, where he has often spent his summers. "I was walking down the main street one day," said Kendall, "when I saw old Silas grinning from ear to ear. I hardly thought that he was that glad to see me. So, after speaking to him, I said: 'Why the smile that won't come off, Silas? What has happened to make you so happy this morning?" 'I've been a-gittin' married this morning,' was the unexpected reply. 'Married! You? exclaimed. 'Why, Silas, what on earth have you done that for? You know you can't even support yourself as it is.' 'Wall,' said Silas, 'you see, it's this way: I ken purty near support myself, an' I kind of figured out that she could finish up the job."

He Wanted to Get a Fair Start. An old citizen, who had been henpecked all his life, was about to die. His wife felt it her duty to offer him such consolation as she might, and said: "John, you are about to go, but of return. Tired and discouraged, he I will follow you."

passed the early part of the night in "I suppose so, Manda," said the old sleep from which he was aroused by man, weakly, "but so far as I am connightmares of horror and forebodings cerned, you don't need to be in any of failure, his mental state robbing blamed hurry about it."-Argonaut.

Pleasure First.

"Bobby, did you give a piece of insomnia, he donned his clothing and sauntered away through the deserted your cake to little Sam Green?" "Yessum, but I punched his face

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we have, than to have the things that we desire.—Henry van Dyke.

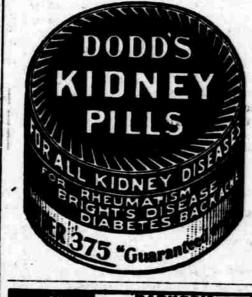
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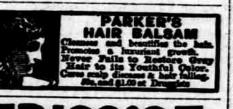
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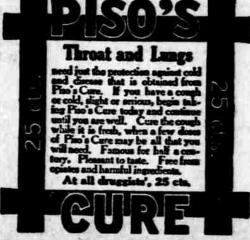
You may guess what a woman is but that's your limit.

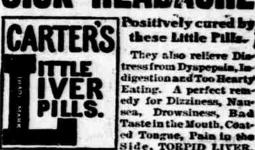
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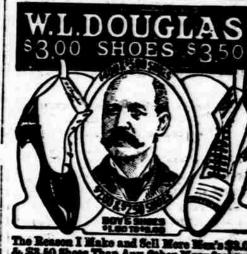
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