

## SPAIN'S NEW MINISTER

THE NEW REPRESENTATIVE AT NATIONAL CAPITAL.

He is Noted for Dash or Belligerence and is Far from Being the Democrat. That His Father, the Ex-Minister Was, is Learned, However.



**SENATOR POLO** Y BERNABE, the new Spanish minister to Washington, is the son of Admiral Polo of the Spanish navy, who was minister to the United States during President Grant's administration and

who was chiefly instrumental in staying off belligerence recognition in the last Cuban rebellion. Senator Polo, as he is called, is by no means the brusque democrat his father was. He is a colorless young man of almost no force of character at all, and has been carried along in the diplomatic offices of Spain by administration after administration for the sake of his father and his family. He has done little of note during his official life, although he is a man of much learning. He speaks English fluently, and has a wide acquaintance with commercial history, on which subject he has written a number of valuable treatises. His wife, Senora Mendez de Vigo, the daughter of the present Spanish ambassador to Germany, is an accomplished woman not unknown in Washington society. The new minister is not the Polo who was attaché and third secretary of the Spanish legation here from 1873 to 1881. That official was a brother of De Lome's successor and is



MINISTER BERNABE.

now dead. The dead brother's career was exceptionally brilliant. He rose to an importance almost equal to his father's.

### Religious Statistics.

Of the 1,429,682,199 persons constituting the world's population in 1892, according to the estimates of M. Fournier de Flaix, 47,989,158 were Christians. The Roman Catholics aggregated 239,866,533, the Protestants 143,237,627, and the Orthodox Greek church 98,016,000. In the United States of America, at the census of 1890, the number of communicants (including 138,500 Jews, and some small denominations of partly Christian character), was 23,265,901, with 177,363 churches, and church property valued at \$678,245,844. Catholic bodies numbered 7,591,439; Methodists, 5,121,636; Baptists, 3,785,740; Presbyterians, 1,416,294; Lutherans, 1,327,134; Disciples of Christ, 871,917; Protestant Episcopalians, 600,764; Congregationalists, 580,000; Reformed bodies, 335,933; United Brethren, 245,718; and Mormons, 223,587. For January, 1897, the Independent published the latest accessible statistics of the same religious bodies, as follows: Roman Catholics, 8,271,309; Methodists, 5,653,289; Baptists, 4,153,857; Presbyterians, 1,469,345; Lutherans, 1,420,905; Disciples of Christ, 1,003,672; Protestant Episcopalians, 636,773; Congregationalists, 622,557; Reformed bodies, 348,471; United Brethren, 271,035, and Mormons, 234,000. Accepting these data, the net gain of the entire church in six years has been about 10 per cent on its whole number in 1890. The forementioned eleven churches show an aggregate increase of 2,067,021 members, of whom the Roman Catholics received 769,870, the Methodists 531,653, and the Baptists 368,117. Of the English speaking religious communities of the world, about 107,000,000 are professedly Christian and about 17,000,000 are of no particular religious profession.

### Tired Eyes.

People speak about their eyes being tired, meaning that the retina or seeing portion of the eye is fatigued, but such is not the case, as the retina hardly ever gets tired. The fatigue is in the inner and outer muscle attached to the eyeball, and the muscle of accommodation, which surrounds the lens of the eye. When a near object is to be looked at, this muscle relaxes and allows the lens to thicken, increasing its refractive power. The inner and outer muscles are used in covering the eye on the object to be looked at, the inner one being especially used when a near object is looked at. It is in the three muscles mentioned that the fatigue is felt, and relief is secured temporarily by closing the eyes, or gazing at far distant objects. The usual indication of strain is a redness of the rim of the eyelid, betokening a congested state of the inner surface, accompanied with some pain. Sometimes this weariness indicates the need of glasses rightly adapted to the person, and in other cases the true remedy is to massage the eye and its surroundings as far as may be with the hand wet in cold water.

You can't judge a man's character by the high standing of his collar.

## OUR DAILY BREAD.

Forms of the Staff of Life in Various Countries.

In the remote parts of Sweden the poor people make and bake their rye bread twice a year and store the loaves away so that eventually they are as hard as bricks, says the London Mail. Farther north still bread is made from barley and oats. In Lapland, oats with the inner bark of the pine are used. The two together, well ground and mixed are made into large, flat cakes, cooked in a pan over the fire. In dreary Kamchatka pine or birch bark by itself well masticated, pounded and baked, frequently constitutes the whole of the natives' bread food. The Icelanders scrape the "ice-land moss" off the rocks and grind it into fine flour, which serves both for bread and puddings. In some parts of Siberia, China and other eastern countries a fairly palatable bread is more from buckwheat. In parts of Italy chestnuts are cooked, ground into meal and used for making bread. Durra, a variety of the millet, is much used in the countries of India, Egypt, Arabia, and Asia Minor for making bread. Rice is largely eaten by the Chinese, Japanese and a large portion of the inhabitants of India. In Persia the bread is made from rice flour and milk; it is called "lavash."

The Persian oven is built in the ground, about the size of a barrel. The sides are smooth masonry work. The fire is built at the bottom and kept burning until the wall or sides of the oven are thoroughly heated. Enough dough to form a sheet about a foot wide and about two feet in length is thrown on the bench and rolled until about as thin as sole leather, and it is taken up and tossed and rolled from one arm to the other and flung on a board and slapped on the side of the oven. It takes only a few moments to bake, and when baked is spread out to cool. This bread is cheap, sweet and nourishing. A specimen of the "hunger bread" from Armenia is made of cloverseed, flax or linseed meal, mixed with edible grass.

### POOR ANTHONY HOPE.

What He Endured from the Women at the Afternoon Tea.

Here is an account of what Anthony Hope went through at an Indianapolis tea in his honor, says the Critic: One woman says: "I am very happy to meet you. I've heard a great deal about you and your books, but I've never read any of them." "You have not lost anything, madam," said he. "I'm very happy to meet you," said a bright girl, "but I'm sorry you don't like women." "How do you know I do not like women?" "Oh, because I saw it in the paper this morning." "The article was not signed, was it?" asked Mr. Hawkins. "I am very glad of the opportunity to meet you this afternoon, Mr. Hawkins," said a married lady, "because I have an engagement and can not go to hear you tonight. I've read your stories." "Then I will not spoil any good impression you may have formed of the stories." "Oh I wanted to have the impression strengthened," and after she walked away she said to her friend, "I wonder if that last speech of mine was complimentary." "You are not half as old-looking as I thought you would be," said another. "I thought you had white hair." "I am sorry to disappoint you, madam," said he. "What stories are you going to read to-night, Mr. Hope?" The author told the questioner, "The Prisoner of Zenda" and "The Dolly Dialogues." "I wish you were going to read something else, for those are the only stories I have read of yours," said she.

### EDITOR OF THE OXFORD CUB.

New England's youngest editor is a boy of 9, whose home is in Paris Hills, Me. The youthful molder of public opinion is named William Elbridge Atwood, he is the son of Town Treasurer George M. Atwood, and his little paper is called the Oxford Cub. Young William inherits his taste for journalism from his father, who, besides being



WILLIAM E. ATWOOD, AGED 9.

the greatest political luminary of Paris Hills, is the managing editor of the county's oldest newspaper, the Oxford Democrat.

When the editor of the Cub started his paper in November of last year he had no knowledge of the typographical art. The first few numbers were printed by him with pen and ink in boyish characters and distributed among members of his family and near friends. Owing to its originality, perhaps, the demand for the Cub increased and the editor betook himself to the task of printing his paper on his father's typewriter.

### Here's the Very Littlest.

A babe born to Mrs. Ed. Smith, of St. Louis, weighed only three ounces. The head was well shaped, covered with black hair and was about the size of a big button. The child lived four days.

## THEATRICAL TOPICS.

CURRENT NEWS AND GOSSIP OF THE STAGE.

Women Have the Power to Terminate the Era of Immoral Stage Plays—Dose on New Conditions May Young and Her Work—Stage Whispers.



HE SUGGESTION is made by the New York Evening Post, and with much force, that women have the power to put a speedy end to all coarse, unpleasant or indecent stage performances. This is certainly the

fact in the case of the better order of theaters, where a withdrawal of female patronage would soon bring about the closing of the doors. If any considerable number of the women supporters of the theater let it be known that they would resent as a personal insult gross things said or done upon any stage in their presence, refuse to visit the theater again and exert their influence to keep their friends from visiting it, managers would soon cease to discover anything particularly artistic or progressive in realistic vulgarities, and would take care that all their goods should be disinfected thoroughly before exhibition. Unfortunately, women as a body have not shown open anger or disgust at plays which have elicited vigorous male reprobation. On the contrary, some of the most unseemly plays of modern date have drawn phenomenally large audiences at matinees. It may be as well to add that the worst plays are not always those about which the most fuss is made. Mere coarseness or vulgarity is not very dangerous, for it is repellent without any power of insidious attraction. The dangerous play is that which in-

tion failed in New York, but with its good comedians, the prettiest chorus seen in many a day, in addition to Marie George, Christie Carlisle, Phyllis Rankin and Edna May, the New York variety was received in Boston the last of November. "The Belle of New York" has no claims to any artistic merit. It is a flimsy, shallow musical comedy, thin of story, unoriginal, and unimpressive musically. If two numbers be excepted, and altogether causeless and resultless. But as a "hit show" it is untried. There are all sorts of girls, all pretty, and all young. It appealed along that line and succeeded along that line.

Another young player who ought to be a great success as an ingenue if she had a proper opportunity is Mary Young, who has lately emerged from obscurity in Daly's theater and made a popular success as Lucille, the slack wire walker of "The Circus Girl." Miss Young is a New Yorker. She was born up in Harlem and brought up in New York city. She is only 15 years old, and up to the time she started out from New York with "The Circus Girl" had spent almost her entire professional life in Augustin Daly's company (a great school). Miss Young made her debut at the age of twelve in Tennyson's "The Forresters," when it was produced at Daly's theater, March 17, 1892, but in all her career at Daly's she had few speaking parts, although she had danced in most of his productions in Europe and all over America. But she had understudied many parts and been carefully rehearsed in many of them by Mr. Daly, who took a great interest in her. In 1894 Miss Young played Titania in "A Midsummer Night's Dream" and Puck in the same play, her two most important parts, and in the summer of that year she played a few weeks in the stock company in Kansas City. She is pretty, graceful, has marked charm, and even in Lucille shows evidence of temperamental gifts although the part is not an inspiring one. Her bits of pantomime in the



CHRISSE CARLYLE.

cultivates a false morality, presents vice in glittering and seductive shape, or misrepresents it as rather more than half a virtue.

"I feel the need of creating new things," said Eleanor Duse, to a European correspondent. "The nature of my present artistic activity no longer satisfies me. I feel that something is dying in my soul, and that something else is being born there. In the plays in which I now act there is a side that is false, worn out, already dead, which oppresses me, and I feel a desire, an aspiration, for a new form of art, which shall respond in a more immediate and deeper fashion to the structure of my mind. Magda, La Femme Ideale, La Dame aux Camelias! I feel humiliated under the apparel of the persons I have to play. We must go back to Greek beauty, to the dramatic art of the ancients. The action, the color, the drawing of contemporary art are the action, color and drawing of an art that is rotten. Even the language that we speak is vicious. The eternal words, the eternal truths, can be found only in the works of the ancients, and it is only in taking the art of antiquity as our point of departure that we can give to the public a pure and healthy idea of form. The spirit of a return to the tragedy of the ancients is in the air, and will soon be felt throughout the world."

Only one American company sent out in musical comedy this season could approach the "In Town" company in the beauty and neatness of its girls, and that was George Lederer's "Belle of New York." This produc-

tion first act of that musical comedy are among the hits of the production. But no one can see her without feeling sure that she is an actress a little out of her meter in musical comedy.

John Hare seems to have resumed his old place among London managers



MARY YOUNG.

without difficulty. His performance of the middle-aged lover in "A Bachelor's Romance" has caught the fancy of the town, and the latest news of him is that he has been obliged to put additional rows of orchestra stalls in his theater to accommodate his patrons.

Anita Vivanti Chartres is the author of "That Man," which A. M. Palmer will produce. "Her Ladyship," which is to be used at the New York Casino, and "Good and Evil," which Eleanor Duse has accepted,

## THE KING OF BIRDS.

THE HABITS, HAUNTS AND HOMES OF EAGLES.

Making the Young Ones Fly—It is Often a Survival of the Fittest in the Fierce Combat for Food—Carrying Off a Calf.

The mountain solitudes and fastnesses of Tennessee, which have figured so often of late in the stories and novels of John Fox, Charles Egbert Craddock and others, have among other respects, inspiring natives many specimens of the American national bird, the bald-headed eagle, which makes its eyrie among the lofty and ragged cliffs and crags and pinnacles of the range, says the New York Post. It is found on the Stone mountain, the great Roanoke, 6,296 feet high, on the Bald at 5,550 feet, and the Great Smoky range, which rises 6,630 feet, on the Bullhead and in many other lofty places. For these splendid birds there is a never-failing demand, and as a result there are many mountaineers who have become expert catchers of these mountain prizes and who often reap rich rewards in return for perilous risks and daring adventures. Young eagles bring from \$40 to \$80, and occasionally \$100, while eagles that are of some age and of great size cost as much as \$300, these being rarely captured, however. Eagles which are killed in attempt to capture them are valuable to taxidermists, who always find a ready market for these great stuffed birds. Their feathers, especially those of wing and tail, are likewise sold for good prices. The eagle either builds its nest upon the top of a mighty tree growing far up in the mountain, amid myriads of twining vines and the thicket and most inaccessible bushes or shrubs, or on the summit of a high rock. It is always a large one, strongly and comfortably built, large sticks and branches being laid together, nearly flat and bound with twining vines. The spacious inside is covered with hair and mosses so minutely woven together that no wind can penetrate. In this abode the mother bird lays two eggs, which are great curiosities. The long end of the egg tapers down to a point, while the color is a dirty or brownish red, with many dots and spots upon it. The young birds are driven forth from the nest by their savage parents to scratch for themselves as soon as they are able to fly, and no training whatever is given them by the old bird. That is left to their instinct, which lingers and necessarily develops. There is no going back to the old home for the young eagle, for the mother bird at once tears up every vestige of the nest, where they have thriven since birth, and while they emit plaintive shrieks, darts at them and pushes them off the crags or rocks, and as they must take to their wings or fall, this is how they learn to fly at once. It takes three years for a young eagle to gain its full and complete plumage, and for the development of its strength. Once full grown, provided he does not meet with a violent death, an eagle should live between 20 and 100 years. Up in the mountains the eagle finds it as hard to gain subsistence as do the feathered grumblers of the plains below. The precariousness of his existence and the wild manner in which food is gathered seem to give the bird greater ferocity the older it grows. The eagle ranges among the mountains and valleys in pairs, their young never following them, but doing the best they can by themselves. The stern, unsocial tyranny of the older birds, beginning with the casting out of the eaglets, manifests itself in later years in their treatment of their mates. If the male bird be the stronger, most of the prey belongs to him, and he allows the female to eat but a paltry share between fierce thrusts of his beak. If the female is the stronger and she generally is, the male bird cowers and winces under many a fierce blow from his unfeeling wife, no matter how small the morsel he is trying to get. But when danger threatens, no human pair battle so formidable for themselves and for each other as do two eagles. It is a noteworthy fact that each male has but one mate during his life time. If the female is killed or captured, the surviving male becomes an eagle hermit, and fiercer than ever.

Eagles are often seen near their nests together, but when the sun is shining, they frequently take their majestic flights straight toward it, until they disappear from sight. Sitting upon the mountain side their vision is so keen they can see far down the valley a sheep or young goat, a big turkey or rooster, a small pig, a rabbit, or partridge, and almost instantaneously they descend upon their victim. Often, when a large calf or goat is to be attacked, and carried off, four or six of the great birds will unite and remove the carcass to a safe spot, where they will immediately begin to fight it out to see which of them is entitled to the choicest bits, and it is truly a survival of the fittest in such combats as these. But an eagle is always confident of his strength and rarely overreaches himself in such combats or in his desire for prey. When lingering by the mountain rivers, watching for ducks or geese or even fish, a pair of eagles will display their natural shrewdness. They swoop from opposite directions upon the fowl, which tries to escape by diving, and could outwit one eagle, but suddenly as the bird comes to the surface of the water the second eagle seizes him.

With its wonderful power of sight, covering a radius of miles, the eagle combines a swiftness of flight equally marvelous. In a single night and day a full grown eagle can fly 1,000 miles. Oftentimes the visitor in Tennessee mountains can just see him like a little speck in the sky, moving restlessly and rapidly in majestic circles about the crest of a far-away peak. The sight-

seers and mountaineers who love to watch eagles always choose the break of dawn or a calm sunset. Then they are to be seen wheeling in circles and gliding about in horizontal swoops, just before starting out on a day's hunt, or settling for the night.

### BERLIN'S BRUTAL POLICE.

Woman Criticizes an Officer and is Dragged to a Station.

Berlin Letter in London Mail. Late-ly when a German is badly treated by the police at Port au Prince, Germany rent men-of-war to obtain reparation. A case has occurred here in Berlin in one of the most frequented streets, which, though I have grown accustomed to much, I should not have thought possible. A lady allowed her newly engaged housemaid to go out, but requested her to be in at 10, the hour at which Berlin houses are closed. At a quarter past that hour, in her dressing gown and slippers and without a hat, she went down the public stairs to see if the girl had perhaps been locked out. She found her in front of the door in the company of a man, who, when the lady summoned the girl to come in, cried that he would not allow it, but would take her with him. The mistress asked a policeman who claimed to be passing for his assistance, but was refused, whereupon she said: "Well, you are a nice policeman. What are you there for?" The policeman very gruffly ordered the lady to go into the house. She objected, and all at once he seized hold of her and declared her to be arrested. The horrified lady in vain protested, pointing to her dress, and declaring it was impossible to be dragged out to the police station on a cold winter night and so thinly clad. The policeman, however, insisted, and the lady asked to be allowed to lock the house, as she had left the door of her flat open. All her entreaties, however, were in vain. When she tried without permission to lock the door the policeman rushed at her, seized her by the waist and dragged her into the street. He then grabbed at her arm and shoved her on before him. An empty cab came along, and his prisoner begged him to allow her at least to get in and be spared the disgrace of wandering to the station accompanied by the usual mob. She jumped into the cab, but the rascal pulled her out with such force that her gown was torn and her arms were black and blue. She was obliged to walk. When she was got to the police station her husband rushed in, but was told to get out, with the words: "Be off or you will be arrested too." After a short inquiry the lady was released. So much for the incredible story, but still more monstrous is its sequel. The police brought an action against the lady for having insulted a member of the force. Of course, she was acquitted, but so far nothing has been heard as to whether the policeman was punished by his superiors.

### Care of the Eyes.

For eyes that have much to do, and on which a strain is put, darkness is the best possible remedy, and merely to close them for five minutes at a time produces a rested feeling, which shows itself in their renewed brightness. Bathing tired eyes in warm water, and then closing them for some time, is an excellent daily practice. Nothing, however, but hot water should ever be allowed to touch the eyes, except by direction of an oculist. The eyeball should be a clear, bluish-white color. If it has red streaks in it there is trouble somewhere. If it is dull and yellow in color, that also is an indication of disease, and in most cases the seat of the trouble is not in the eye itself—the stomach, which is accountable for most things, is generally accountable for the bright or lachrymose condition of the eyes. To make dull eyes shine, therefore, the best thing is an anti-dyspeptic medicine.

### Life Transformed.

As when one sings, according to a recent beautiful experiment, on a mass of confused colors, and they arrange themselves into mystic forms of flower and shell; so Jesus breathes on life, and the phantasmagoria of sin changes into one plant, with root and branches, and leaves, and fruit, all organized and consistent. Tried by final tests, and reduced to its essential elements, sin is the preference of self to God, and the assertion of the human will against the will of God. With Jesus, from first to last, sin is selfishness.—John Watson.

### Greedy Little Fish.

The little fish known as miller's thumb—the fresh water sculpin—is one of the natural checks on the over-production of trout and salmon. It eats the eggs and the young fish. It is found in all trout waters as far as examined. It is very destructive. At an experiment once made in the aquarium of the United States fish commission in Washington a miller's thumb about four and one-half inches long ate at a single meal, and all within a minute or two, twenty-one little trout, each from three-quarters to an inch in length.

### Almsdeeds.

Almsdeeds comprise every kind of service rendered to our neighbor who needs such assistance. He who supports a lame man bestows an alms on him with his feet; he who guides a blind man does him a charity with his eyes; he who carries an invalid or an old man upon his shoulders imparts to him an alms of his strength. Hence none are so poor but they may bestow an alms on the wealthiest man in the world.—St. Augustine.