LONLON EXPERIENCES An American Woman Tells of her Life in London Apartments. On her return from a season's sojourn in London an observing American woman writes: 'I often recall with some amusement the first extortion I was was subjected to during my first week of apartment living. My bill was rather more than double what I had calculated to pay. With the assistance of an English friend went over each item only to discover that my carterer had made a clear profit on each article ranging from 'tuppence ha' penny' to 'alf a crown.' This was not encouraging, but I had

expected 'doing' and consequently was

not surprised. "A very forcible note to my landlady brought my bill the following week £4 less. I subsequently learned that six people had lived at my expense during that time. I afterwards sought the subterfuge of doing my own marketing and deluded myself with the idea that my hving would cost vegetables being sold at such moderate prices. It was not so, however, You may plan and devise, watch and suspect, but that is all the good it will do you, if you are at the mercy of English lodging-house keepers. It is their nature to defraud. They can't help it and you must expect them to. I have often thought that the housemaids were in league with their employers, in this respect only that their purloinings are more glaring and assume the shape of out-and-out thefts.

"I had occasion to be absent from London for a few days, and upon returning found to my dismay that numerous articles, among which were several valu ble pieces of jewelry, had been stolen. At the time of my departure there were three women servants employed in the house. The day before my return, one of them, upon whom suspicion fell, had suddenly and without notice left her situation. Upon complaining to my landlady, I was informed that not the slightest redress was open to me. Notwithstunding that the servant had been mistrusted, notwithstanding that she had the sole care of my rooms and their keys, not even an investigation of her boxes, which had been left for the expressman's call, was allowed me. I was told that without 'positive proof' no police magistrate would issue a search warrant. This quite convinced me that there was collusion, as I had personal knowledge that, in other houses, maidservants had been open to the inspection of the landlady. English housemaids, as a class, are more thorough in their work and more respectful than American servant-girls; but the latter are undeniably more honest and trustworthy. "Now, as to the matter of expendi-

ture in dress. Never in my life did I see such specimens of fine underwear, both in texture and design, as in London. Not only was I particularly pleased with these two essentials, but extended by the clerks and firms. I was to leave London in twenty-four hours, and in eight hours a dealer made from my own design some very elaborate articles in this line dear to the feminine heart. I wonder if many American shopkeepers, no matter what your past custom or how great the anticipation of future patronage,

underclothes. Their prices are exorbitant and their goods in most cases yellow and shop-worn from close and long packing on the shelves. Women in England ought to dress better than women in America, but they don't. They have many advantages over us, but they don't seem to know how to use them. While there I employed a woman to 'do over' some plain house day. Fancy that in America! A great saving in the cost of dress can be effected by sending to the mills at Darlington, Bradford or Halifax and selecting your goods from samples that are sent you by post on approval.

"Imagine a heavy ladies' cloth for one and six (36 cents) per yard, double fold: grenadines, flannels, plaids and innumerable fancy woollens and cottons at what would be considered starvation prices on this side of the Atlantic. Gloves, too, are an item worth investments for every spare dollar. At one place on Regent street I have bought gloves, twenty-button length, best Suede, for \$2. Just the same number of buttons, and as much kid, only of an inferior quality, sell as low as 75 cents."

PIKE'S PEAK. Viewed From the Plains It is

Sight Inspiring and Grand.

Viewed from the prairies that lie to the east of its rocky slopes, Pike's Peak stands like some grim sentinel line, stoic-like, indifferent to the shifting panorama that has passed before it. Could it speak, what a history it might unfold! What tragedies have been enacted in sight of its lofty summit! Over 14,000 feet high, it is, from its situation, standing in the first range of hills, the first peak in Southern Colorado that greets the traveler coming from the east, and its sight has invigorated many a weary party in the duys of overland travel.

for at the giant's feet were found, if

green pastures.

The writer cannot better describe its appearance from the plains than by relating his experience when first seeing summit of one of those elevations, high but not abrupt, common to parts away at their nearest point; cloud-like but distinct they appeared through the intervening distance. Pike's Peak, more than 100 miles distant, its summit crowned with snow, stood out against the sky in well-defined lines of a grayish tint in the morning; in the evening it assumes a purplish hue apparently outlined in silver. The impression it gives one after crossing the dreary plains is inexpressibly grand. It is only on a nearer approach that it presents that craggy and rugged aspect cavern within the vast inclosure, so characteristic of the Rockies. From its position Pike's Peak is one of

It Looks Reasonable.

United States.

In the case of a passenger killed on a Tennessee railroad the counsel for the road has set up the plea that the deceased was making a journey ir direct opposition to the wishes of his wife, and that her last words to him were that something would surely happen if he went.

the most interesting as well as one of

the most noted landmarks in the

A HOT JOKE.

Which Rren an Indian Could Appreciate. Indians are generally regarded as very stoical beings, alike insensible to the emotions of joy or grief; but the following incident which was related to me by my grandmother, an early settler of Andover, shows that some of them can enjoy a joke, even when it is at their own expense.

"A good many years ago," says my grandmother. "I with my husband moved into Andover, then a wild country with only a few white settlers. Our home was in a lonely place some ways from any inhabitants, and I was often, when my husband was away, both lonely and fearful. Of course he never went from home for any length of time without taking baby and me along with him, as he would not dare to me almost nothing, poultry, meats and | leave us alone, but I mean when he was engaged in his necessary farm work or hunting, I was afraid. You see I was young and had a great dread of the Indians.

"Well one day when baby and were alone I had a terrible fright. 1 had just put her to sleep in her cradle and was standing with my back to the door, mixing my light bread, when a slight noise called my attention, and looking around I saw two tall Indians wrapped in gray blankets just entering the door. My heart stood still. I could hardly keep from screaming aloud, but fortunately did not, and my unwelcome visitors stalked to the fire and very deliber-

ately proceeded to warm themselves. "Presently one of them turned around and pointed to some bottles which, as m; cupboard was small, I had hung on pegs driven into the logs of which our cabin was built. Two of these were black quart bottles; one of them held whiskey and the other pepper sauce. Of course I knew the Indians wanted whisky, and as I was afraid to refuse and my hands were in the dough I nodded affirmatively.

"Muttering something I could not understand, one walked across the room and taking down the nearest bottle raised it to his mouth and swallowed a portion of its contents. when discharged were not permitted | Straightway he began to cough and choke, and half frightened out of my senses I saw he had the wrong bottle in his hand. Shaking the sticky mass of dough from my fingers started toward him; but with a loud 'Ugh, heap strong!' while the water filled his eyes, he shook his head at me and handed the bottle to his companion, who had turned from the fire and was watching the pro-

ceedings with much interest. "Grasping the bottle eagerly the also with the prices and the courtesy other Indian took a huge swallow, and then such a strangling and sputtering you never saw. Bending almost double while the saliva poured from his mouth, and the tears from his eyes, he coughed and choked until I was afraid he would burst a blood vessel, and all the time the first Indian was in a paroxysm of dewould have made you the same outfit light. He shouted with laughter, in the same time. Not many, I'll clapped his friend on the back, snatched the bottle from him and offered Don't go to the linen-draper's for him another drink, exclaiming: 'Nough strong water, hey? Ugh, good warm up Indian cold!'

"By this time I had managed to get the other bottle down, and now to prove that I was not to blame took the cork out of it and handed it to them. Still laughing the first Indian took it, smelled of it, nodded understandingly, and then passed it gowns for two shillings (50 cents) per | to the other sufferer who had somewhat recovered.

"Straightening himself he pushed the extended hand aside, saying, 'Big fool Indian, think he mighty smart, all same fool, ugh!' and walked out of the door without giving me a glance.

"His friend handed me the bottle and pointing first at the fire, and then at his own throat, exclaimed, 'All same hot, heap hot, no more cold Indian inside! ugh!' and followed in the footsteps of the other fellow.

"I stood in the door and watched them as they plodded along in single file through the deep snow, the rear one stopping occasionally to laugh and look back and shake his head

"In spite of their evident enjoyment I was little atraid. I knew how revengeful Indians are and I thought maybe they would come back and take revenge on us. But I never heard of them again; and my husband said the joke was such a good watching over the vest extent of one that even an Indian could not country from its base to the Kansas help enjoying it."-Lewiston Journ-

CLEARLY OUTCLASSED.

Making Award in the Dark Regions to the Greatest Enemy of Horses.

Weird, unearthly shapes, as moved by some resistless impulse to congregate at a common center, hurried through the sulphurus air that not riches, at least sweet waters and overhung the bottomless pits and fiery lakes of the Region of Darkness. Wan, cadaverous, uneasy specters, new to the dread mysteries of Init. One morning as we reached the ferno, side by side with the tough and hardened Oldest Inhabitants, of eastern Colorado, we came suddenly | whizzed horribly along, and the in view of the range, many miles grimy walls of Pandemonium echoed presently to the discordant murmuring and snarling of one of the largest throngs that had ever gathered there.

"I have called you together, my countrymen," said the presiding officer of the infernal regions, for the purpose of deciding a disputed point, A contest has arisen," he continued "as to which of my faithful subjects can claim the honor of having inflieted the most torture on horses during his earthly existence. The contestants will now have an opportunity to be heard."

"I was a country blacksmith for fifty-three years," called out one of the claimants as he mounted the platform and looked complacently have come from that."

There was a murmur of applause, and a general shaking of heads, ac. Louse and one of our old servar companied by whispered observa- girls owns it."—Harpers Bazaar.

tions to the effect that his record would be hard to beat.

An uncanny specter, with a counte-nance that would have broken the strongest camera on the surface of the earth, came to the platform

"I was a harness-maker." he said. 'I invented the stiff bit. 'I made the first pair of spurs,' exclaimed the next candidate as he elbowed the ex-harness maker off the

"Gammon!" said another claimant, 'I set the fashion ofcutting horses' tails off."

"And I made the first machine for clipping them," announced another. The presiding officer checked the having seemed to be on the point of bestowing the award what account is it to her that Thomon the last speaker without further | as Jefferson perspired, and, our other A hard looking resident mounted

the rostrum. "My friends," he said, "I made the first check rein.

In vain the chairman attempted to silence the cheering of the audience. It was only after some of the noisiest of the spirits near the door were thrown out and the warning given that the galleries would be cleared if | but American girls who allow themthe offense were repeated that order was restored. Suddenly a commanding voice

rang out: "I invented the barb wire fence." A deathlike stillness prevaded the cavernous place. With this conviction that no contestant would have cepted as adequate. Drat them! Let the hardihood to dispute the claim | them live abroad. of the last speaker the chairman half

At this moment a comparatively mild looking and unpretending shape looked timidly about.

rose as if to announce that the con-

troversy was at an end.

to say!" said the presiding officer, tion being that water, as well as almost contemptuously. "I-I was the first man that ever

paved the street of a city with gran-

Amidst the wildest and most tumultuous applause that had ever shaken the walls of Sheol's capital the Prince of Darkness placed a crown of laurel on the head of the unpretending goblin, shook his hand warmly, and proclaimed the contest was

over-Chicago Tribune. The Polaris Cleck.

On the desk of Edson B. Brace, chief clerk of the bureau of equipmentand recruiting in the navy department, is a little rosewood case, bound and inlaid with brass and bronze. It is in the form of a cube, about eighteen inches high, and contains a chronometer such as is used on all naval vessels. This little instrument has quite a tragic history, says the Washington Star, and is held of considerable value. It was the ship's chronometer of the unfortwnate Polaris, that was sent out on an arctic expedition by the navy department in 1871. When the Polaris was nipped in the ice, Capt. Hall saved this instrument and some other things from the vessel, As long as Capt. Hall survived he kept the chronometer with him. When he perished it was buried in the arctic snows and abandoned. This was some time in 1872. For four winters it lay buried in the snow and

In 1876 Capt. Nares of the British navy, now Sir George Nares, then in command of the last royal expedition to the arctic region, discovered this chronometer at Newman's bay. He dug it out of the snow and took it to England with him on his return. It had then been buried in the snowfor four years in a region where the mercury sinks to 104 degrees below freezing point. It was found to be in perfect order, and was wound and ran in the box to throw every ball over all right as soon as taken from its | the plate. He can elevate or lower it cold bed. On returning to England, so as to throw a ball anywhere be-Capt. Nares turned the instrument | tween the knee and the waist. The over to the British admiralty office, from whence it was sent as a present to this government. With all this can throw the swiftest ball. Only experience it loses only a single second in 24 hours.

Why Litchfield's Mayor is Unhappy. The mayor of Litchfield, Ill., is a very sore man. A sand bagger happened along the other day and arranged to hold up a few of the wealthiest citizens. His plans were given to the police by a confederate and a posse of six officers set out to take the robber. In order that he might be caught red-handed, as it were, the mayor was sent ahead to be held up. He was stopped by the young man and made to throw up his hands and keep them up while the robbers took his valuables. Then the police charged, but the robber began shooting at them, and after a general fusilade on both sides he drew a knife and cut his way out and escaped with his booty. The mayor is feeling as sore as a stubbed toe, and is contemplating getting even with the police by firing the whole force.-[Chicago Mail.

Why Sunset Cox Came Home. But why should I dwell beside the Bosphorus when I did not know the Bosphorus of my own country? Bismarck (Dak.) to see. What was Huron? What was the falls of harness the falls of Spokane? So I this brave little woman perform this is noted, and the Norman monarch made salaam to the sultan. I wish you had seen my final bow to him. I had not met all his family. He has 400 wives, but I found him a genial fellow, and very kind to Americans. So I came home, and here I am,---From a Recent Speech.

Lessons of Experience.

Anxious Mother-My son, that young lady you admire knows nothing about housework. Son-Well, mother, you know you don't either.

"True, my son. Your father's brother, however, married agirl who did, and the money she saved was vested in real estate, and they are now living in a brown-stone palace." "Oh, well, his fortune couldn't all

"Maybe not, maybe not: but your father and I are living in a rented bcuse and one of our old servant Let 'Em Suffer.

From Life. It is simply disgusting that American girls with wealthy parents should marry these titled gentlemen. Not that the titled are always such bad fellows, though of those who hunt fortunes the less that is expected the better. Nor is the objection mainly one of expense. Such Americans as Mackay or Mr. Huntington or the estate of the late Mr. Caldwell can include a prince or two in their families and never feel it. The trouble is that in the lady's case it is a swapping of her birthright for a mess of pottage, and one, too, that applause that followed, the assembly is all too liable to prove long of mess and egregiously short of pottage. Of forefather fought and bled in the Revolution to be quit of titles and class distinctions? Silly creatures, with the substance well in hand she flings herself after the shadow. For a woman who is born a princess there is excuse; for a woman raised in a country where princes are the fashion, who vields to inducements and marries one, there is something to be said; selves to be snapped up by one of those maigres should be taught to look abroad for all their triumphs. For such dames who wipe off their shoes our rich American soil, topdressed with liberty, no extenuation that we can conceive of should be ac-

Air in Water.

The phenomenon of air in water and the fact that in compressing took its place on the platform and water the air is not forced out, has long been an interesting subject of "Speak out if you have anything | scientific study, the simple explanamany other liquids, has the property of absorbing various gaseous substances without thereby increasing the volume, and far from reducing the capacity of the liquid, absorb a certain gas, the application of pressure increases it, the law being substantially that the amount of gas absorbed increases directly as the pressure increases, and contrawise.

Thus, if water at ordinary atmospheric pressure will absorb one-fourth its volume of air, at two atmospheres it will absorb another onefourth, at three atmospheres still another fourth, and so on. The capacity of water thus to hold large volumes of gaseous substances under pressure is well shown in the familiar example of carbonated waters. These are bottled under considerable pressure, the gas itself furnishing the pressure, in order that they shall become charged with a great quantity of the gas, which, being liberated as the pressure is removed by drawing the cork gives rise to the wellknown effervescence. In absorbing or discharging the gas, however, there is no charge in the volume of the liquid.—New York Telegram.

A Base-Ball Crank's Invention. Out at East Point there is a base ball crank who is working on a patent ball-tosser or pitcher with which he expects to revolutionize the national

His name is Quellman, and he is an ex-professional ball-player.

"Base ball is the greatest game on earth," he says, "but there is one great objection to it, and that is the power of the umpire. His calling or balls and strikes allows him to give room than the chariot. the game to either ninewhen the teams are well matched. Now, my patent will do away with this objectionable feature. It is a propelling-machine which will allow the man who stands and the team with the best catcher three balls will be thrown over the plate, and the batter must strike or run. Of course there will be more balls batted, but this will require more skillful playing in the field. The game will not then go to the nine whose pitcher can the most befuddle the umpire. My ball-tosser will create a sensation in base-ball circles and I expect to make big money out of it." -Atlanta Journal.

Slandering the World's Better Half.

They say-and who would be so rash to doubt the truth of what they say?-they say Mrs. Cleveland recently shot a deer up in the Adriondack mountains. We should have be- ant and diverting." lieved this even if we had heard it hind him and shut both her eyes and hilt. held both her ears while she took aim with one of his eyes, and pulled the trigger with his finger. After this! many famous writers have sung its What was Bagdad to me when I had she had nothing to do but to utter | praises. Scott, in his "Talisman," a little scream when the gun went off descr bes a meeting between Richard Jerusalem, when I had not visited and run into the house, while she Cour de Lion and Saladin. twisted the rooster's head off with Saladin asks Richard to show him Switzerland, when I must help to his good right hand. After seeing the wonderful strength for which he wonderful feat of marksmanship, we responds by severing a bar of iron Cleveland had shot a deer or an elephant or anything else that happened to be in range.-Washington Post.

> How Rapidly Can a Locomotive Run? In answer to the question the Railway Times says: "The conclusion appears to be that there is no was obtained many years ago by a Bristol and Exeter tank engine, with nine-foot driving wheels-a long extinct species-down a steep bank. But it has, aparently, never been beaten. It is indeed, not a little strange how sharply the line appears to have drawn at eighty miles an hour. Records of seventy-five miles an hour are as plenty as blackberries. Records of any greater speed have a way of crumbling beneath the lightest touch.

KNEW MORE THAN WE DO.

lechanical and Chemical Secrets of the An-

There are many things that the ancients knew which is lost to the world despite the fact that our boasted modern enterprise has tried hard to recover the missing link. The chemists of old compounded numerous drugs, to which we are strangers, and in the industrial arts there are evidences that in a variety of occupations they were more skillful than

In the letters of the Catholic priests who first visited China, which were published in France 200 years ago they relate that they were shown a glass, transparent and colorless. which was filled with a liquid made by the Chinese, which to the observers appeared to be as clear as water. This liquid was poured into the glass; then, looking through it, it seemed to be filled with fishes. This was not owing to any peculi-

arity of the fluid, but to the glass it. self. The Chinese confessed that they did not make them, but that they were the plunder of some foreign conquest many centuries before. MYSTERY OF THE OX.

The art of luminous painting was known to the Japanese 900 years ago, and an extract from one of their old writers has been translated as follows:

One Su Ngoh many years ago had picture of an ox. Every day the ox left the picture frame to graze and returned to sleep within it at night. This picture came into the possession of the Emperor Tai Tsung of the Sung dynasty ruling from 976 to 998, who showed it to his courtiers and asked them for an explanation, which none of them, however, could give.

At last a certain Buddhist priest said that the Japanese found some nacreous substance within the flesh of a certain kind of oyster they picked up when the rocks were bared at low tide, and that they ground this into color material and then painted pictures with it which were invisible y day and luminous by night.

The secret simply was kept during the day the figure of an ox was not visible and it was therefore said that

it left the frame to go grazing. Many instances of remarkable mechanical ingenuity are related by various ancient authors. In the vear 1578, the twentieth of Queen Elizabeth's reign, one Mark Scalioet, a blacksmith, made a lock consisting of eleven pieces of iron, steel and brass, with a hollow key in it, that altogether weighed but one grain of gold. Healso made a gold chain, composed of forty-three links, which he tastened to the lock and key. In the presence of the queen he put the chain about the neck of a flea, which drew with ease, after which he put the lock and key, flea and chain into a pair of scales, and they altogether weighed but one grain and a half.

Myrmeclides, an ancient carver, was also so proficient in microscopic mechanism that he made an ivory chariot with four whicels, and as many harnessed horses, in so small a compass that a fly might have hidden them all under its wings. The same artisan made a ship with all decks, masts, yards, rigging and sails, which took up scarcely more

The silver sphere, "a most noble and ingenious performance," which was presented to Sultan Solyman the Magnificent by his imperial majesty Ferdinand, is mentioned by Paulus Jovius as showing and keeping time with the motions of the celestial bodies in their various configurations. It was carried to Constantinople by velocity of the ball can be regulated, twelve men and there put together by by the artist that made it.

DIMINUTIVE MECHANISM. An artificer named Cornelius Van Drebble once made an instrument like an organ that, being set in the open air under a warm sun, would play airs of itself without the keys being touched, but would not play in the shade. For this reason it is supposed that it was inclosed air rarified by the sun that caused the harmony.

George Whitehead, an Englishman, made a ship, with all things pertaining to it, to move as it it sailed upon a table. "All hands were aloft, a woman made good music on the flute, and a little puppy cried in the midship, all of which variety." quaintly says an old author, "was very pleas-

The Damascus blades as marvels from somebody besides them, for we of perfect steel have long been famremember how a lady of our ac- ous, and even those used in the cruquaintance once shot a rooster for sades are as perfect today as they dinner. She carried the gun on her | were eight centuries ago. One on exhusband's shoulder and stood him | hibition in London could be put into squarely in front of her. Then she a scabbard almost as crooked as a took the gun in both his hands and corkscrew and bent every way withplaced it in a position against his out breaking. The point of this arm After this she scrooched be- sword could be made to touch the

fection of the oriental steel, and were prepared to believe that Mrs. | which lies on the floor of the tent. Saladin says: "I cannot do that," but he takes an eider down pillow from a couch, and, drawing his keen blade across it, it falls in two pieces. At this Richard says: "This is the black art-it is magie; you cannot

cut that which has no resistance." Saladin, to show him that such is not the case, takes a scarf from his shoulders which is so light that it authentic record of any speed shove almost floats in the air, and, tossing eighty miles an hour. That speed it up, severs it before it can descend. That Scott's story is by no means an exaggeration is proved by a traveler who relates that he once saw a man in Calcutta throw a handful of floss silk into the air and a Hindoo sever it to pieces with his saber .-New York News.

> EVERY scrap of iron or wood within reach upon the Eiffel tower is completely covered with names and

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