## DESTINY AND VICTUALS.

Pair woman, could your soul but view, Twist food and fate, there'd be a new And higher dispensation; Could you but see, for "destiny," A synonym in "dinners," And what the kitchen's alchemy Could make of mortal sinners, You'd leave odd fads and learn to bake A loaf and cook a "tater."

To roast a joint or broil a steak, Than which so art is greater. What deeds of fame are left undone
What thoughts are left unspoken,
What waiting laurels ne'er are won,
What grand resolves are broken, ecause of soggy bread and pies And viands spoiled in broiling. Of sickly tarts and greasy fries,

For, though with fortitude he braves The terror's dread of battle. While, proud, aloft his standard waves And round him bullets rattle.

Man often fails of poblest aims, Unconscious of his power, When pills and potions press their claim In some dyspeptic hour. Mayhap 'tis said "He lacks the 'grit' Or genius essential"

By critics, blind, with all their wit, To causes inferential. But "grit" and genius are naught When nature's distillations In ignorant alembic wrought

Into abomination Are set before him day by day, More fitting a collation Mere brutish cravings to allay Then for man's delectation

"Man cannot live by bread alone," 'Tis well and wisely spoken, But make that bad, he'll die unknown And give the world no token
Of high ambition's potencies
cenius' slumb'ring fires
him through galaxies
strious sires.

Miss Ragge put her hand to her brown thin neck and gave a cough of half apology.

"If I stay longer I shall have to run up to town one day to do some shop-

There was a pause. The rings of smoke from Stewart's cigar at the other end of the boat floated down by The boy below broke a fer plates and danced a few steps of a eakdown to cover the noise

cigar does remind me of old times! remember so well that night at Mar-

"Miss Bagge, will you go and play something?

Miss Bagge went obediently and strummed her banjo and mentioned once more that she was a little Alabama coon, and young Mrs. Stewart ran hurriedly to her husband.

"I'm going to quarrel with her," she said, breathlessly.

"That's right," said Henry, calmly; 'anything to stop that row.'

"I'm going to ask her to go back to town to-night, Henry."

"But, my dear, lan't that rather "Of course it is. That's why I am

doing it. You'll have to see her to the The private row was quickly and

quietly over. When the last word had been spoken the self-invited guest begged ten minutes to write a letter, and then she pronounced herself ready for Stewart's escort to the station. "Sorry you are obliged to go, Miss Bagge," said Stewart politely.

"It's an important engagement," said Miss Bagge, trembling, "or I should have stayed. Good-by, dear Mrs. Stewart. I dare say we shall meet again

panded his charge into the Now ter fell from her pocket on f the Gadfly. Mrs. Stewart, good temper, now that her s old admirer was departing. as coun as she noticed

Bagge paid no at-When Mrs.

nome women are I shouldn't mind it in the least. But my mind is quite made

He was not listening, but her h

He was not listening, but nor have a series averted and she went on:

"I have left the keys in the bed-room, and my account book is totalled up to data, with the exception of the bill that came in to-day. There is no reason why we should have any high words."

"I beg your pardon, dear. I haven't heard a word you were saying."

The had found the news page in the evening paper and was reading with evening paper and was reading with

et a divorting breach of

"I was only saying" -she raised he a pitch of distincts

"Look here; here's an idlotic is he girl writes to the fellow." "I don't want to hear it, thank y

Tes you do; listen, this is bow it there, so do I sigh for you.' V

"Go on, please," she said, quickly read the rest of the letter. Is it really

in the paper, Henry?"
"Look for yourself, dear. It's too funmy for words. 'So do I sigh for you. Can you imagine what you are and ever have been to me? You are indeed my king and you know that I am your willing slave.

"Why," cried Mrs. Stewart, "that's word for word the mme." "As what?"

"It doesn't matter, dear." She took from her blouse the letter that the disappointed Miss Bagge, with deplorable lack of originality, had cop-

ied from the evening paper.
"Don't people do some silly things,
Winifred, dear, when they are in love?" She took a marguerite from the bowl on the table and stock it in her hair. Then she tore up the letter and gave the pieces a little puff to send them out on the stream.

"I b'Here you," said Mrs. Stewart. "Shall you want to be rown across for that last trine, mem?" demanded the boy, putting his head out of a window, "or is the guv'nor going to do it?"
"The last train," echoed Mrs. Stew-

art, "why, of course not, James. Go to bed at open.

"That boy's quite mad," said Stew art, turning over a page of the paper to find the cricket; "we must get rid of him."-Bt James' Budget

#### His Criticism.

ional art critics are by no the only people whose opinions ures are worth hearing, as many st has found out. Michael Herad his little shop insured in a company, and the agent prehim with a highly colored lithorecenting the burning of a

cithy surveyed the picture for ents, muttering to himself At last be turned a dissaton the agent

purty," he said. "but

e foire in-

## IN MANX LAND.

Ancient Customs, Government, and Tailless Cate of That Old Country. is not great labor to get over it; and, as two railroads run-one north to south and the other east to west you can see Douglas, Port Erin, Peel, and Ramsey

are the chief towns. The Isle of Man, while h the British crown, is neither English. Scotch, Iriah, nor Welsh, but is a separate country, with a home rule gov-ernment and a language of its own, says the Philadelphia Press, but yet with great loyalty to the imperial govest and devotion to queen Vicoria, for everywhere you go you see pictures of the royal family. The gov-erament is known as the "house of keys" and consists of twenty-four mbers, elected every seven years, ut no person has a vote unless be see real estate to the value of 640, or occupation of the value of £60 per year, and women are also entitled to vote. The court of Tynwald, pre sided over by the lieutenant governor. is composed of the council, which em braces the bishop, atterney general, two judges, the clerk of the rolls, wa-ter balliff, and the vicar general. This council and the house of keys are the active government of the lale of Man. There is one feature of special interest in reference to the inwa, and that is that all laws passed by the house of keys are sent for the royal assent, and when that has been secured then the law must be formally read in the English and Manx language on Tynwald hill in the open air, where the council and the keys united form a Tynwald court before they become laws This form of reading the law at Tynwald is the oldest style on record; was old in 1417, and has been continued ever since. The 5th day of July in each year

is the day of public proclamation of the laws passed by the house of keys. The coat of arms of this lale is three legs of a man in a circle. The motto, translated, reads: "Whithersoever thrown, I shall stand." The Manamen apparently rather enjoy the three-legged crest, for everywhere you turn your face, whether at a steamboat, a railroad, a coach, a flag, or on the windows of the stores, there you see the

three lega. I had read of the Manx cats without talls, and thought it a joke; but, sure enough, the cats here are without talls. and I saw several without that grace ful member. Some ladies of our party who had not seen the Manx cut were rather doubtful of the truth of our report, and we had to accompany them to the house where the cat lived, and after a close examination came away believers in the tailless cat. I don't think pussy is improved by the absence of the tail. Some people say this strange act of nature extends to the

The Manx language, like the ancient language of Ireland, is fast passing sway, and in a generation it will be one of the dead languages, enjoyed only by scholars.

# Beggary and Superstition.

gging is a regular trade in many parts of the world. Some who practice it may almost be said to make it an art, or a profession. A good mendicant, like a good salesman, studies his cus ers, discovers their weak points, if and trades upon them.

writer, who has given much at the subject, describes at some skillful methods by which who get their living by ire"-play upon the superir victima.

mmon notion that giving od fortune.

orbonne," says our French the days of examination elor's degree. See the col-with his dictionary under his way to make the fam ersion, on the success of future depends. A cloud tles down upon them.

ensteur, a morsel bring you happiness. blackballed, me

rian pulls out his pur is seen at the Ho Kamination f

we seen uniting their strength sid them down, while other busy m titudes were employed within in applying the gluten that was to prevent them returning back. The ch returning back. The observers, to sell infy thermolves that the foliage was it deed incurvated and held in this fo by the efforts of the auts, disturbed the builders at their work, and as soon a they were driven away the sprang up, with a force much gree than it would have been deemed po ble for such laborers to every more compact and elegant dwelling of Beophylla viracesse is made of leaves cut and masticated until they become coarse pulp. Its diameter is about dix inches. It is suspended among thicket foliage and sustained not only by the branches on which it hangs, but by the leaves which are worked into the com position, and in many parts project

## EEL THAT LIKED MILK.

from its outer wall.

He Was Slippery, but Dry Ashes Pi-nally Caught Him.

Abner Hammell is a famous fal ann of Irvington, N. J., whose fish and make stories occasionally get into the local papers to the amusement of the reader. The last story Abner tells is the most remarkable. Condensed from the lengthy parrative as it originally appeared the story is as follows, in the old man's own language:

"Dad Applegate got a fine cow last spring—one of the best cows I ever see. Fur a time she gave forty quarts of milk a day and kept fat. 'Long early in the summer she kinder fell off on the morning milkin', and kept gettin' won and wuse as the summer run along. Khe seemed to be all right durin' the day, but didn't produce in the night Dad kep' ber in the little barn down by the crick,and fur a while he had an idee that somebody was milkin' her durin the night. I don't know but he 'spie loned me, fur he put a lock on the bar door and then come over the next mornin' and asked me to lend him my bunch of keys, sayin' he'd lost or mislaid his. Foxey, warn't he? You see he found the cow hadn't done no better in the night, and be wanted to find out whether I had a key to fit the lock Things went on in the same way for a month of two, and one day I suggested to him that it might be that his cow was gittin' milked regular every night by a milk snake, and that be orter watch her. I 'greed to help him, but he said he'd do it alone, and he went down that night and set for four hours on a half-bushel measure watching the cow. Then he got tired and went in the house and turned in. Nex' mornin' the cow didn't let down mor'n two quarts of milk. Dad's got patience, and he watched the better part of the nex night and he one follerin', and then he saw a sight that s'prised him, though it warn't so s'prisin' to me after I was

"He thought the cow was actin' kinder queer, and, pulling the lantern up out of the nati keg he had it in, he flash ed the light on her and saw what he thought was a big blacksnake standing on its tail an' milkin' the cow. The light scart it an' it drops off and slips high and low for it, but had to go to bed without gettin' another sight of it. Nex night be got a shot at it with a rife, but missed it, an' it got away. He didn't find out what it was till the follerin' night, and then he hit it fair with Flobert bullet, and the ball glanced off the slippery cel. If it had been a snake t would have killed it, but it only dazed the sel long enough fer dad to see what It was. "The eel looked to weigh about three

told about it.

an' a half pounds, an' as dad was about to pick it up and thinkin' what a goo breakfast it would make, it gave a twis and slid through a bole in the side of the barn and drop't into the brook I'md went fishin' for that cel nex' day, and set up all night nearly watchin for it with an eel spear, but the eel was too cunning for him, and nex' mornin the cow gave fifteen quarts of milk, showin' what the sei had been in the habit of takin'. It went on that way fer weeks. If he wanted any milk in the mornin' he'd hev to set up all night with the cow, an' if he didn't set up the sel would come every time. He stop't up all the holes, an' the eel made new mes. He tried pizened milk, an' the eel wouldn't touch it. Then he knuckled under an' came to me fer advice. I jes told him to put some dry ashes t the cow an' be'd get the eel. He did an' the next day be found the cel las stiff in the barn. It hed got the s ill mixed up with the slime dn't crawl. He cut the sel's th Lekinned it, an' I never saw a pu was almost pure white, 's ment is ginerally blue, and the best tasting sel he new'd 'bout cale an' pme out onto pasture rickets at night, an' a me how to catch 'es make a wide strip of

w up with the

e pasture and the uid't cross it."

SASH WEIGHTS.

Vinter Mar Have He Ton of Thom. mon nee than sash weights, saye New York Sun. A few windows still made to be held up with cube just as there are still key-wind watches; but, like watches, their n weights are commonly weights are commonly scrap. Lead, being the her scrap. Lead, being the her is used in pieces where is used in pieces where are made of tros and

Back weights are me since maging from two pounds to ti over thirty they are send from such weights of the R are always made round; in er or larger they are cast ag weights are made both ro quare is all does

Saab weights of 150 to 200 po be considered remarkable are cometimes made 200 pe 400 pounds. Thus there a a single such window a ton of weights, and on a two-one dow more than three quadeo dow more than three quagters of a So perfectly balanced are weights windows that they can be raised lowered easily. Heavy weights never put in by guess, nor is it no eary to adjust them after they are place. The man is weighed before place. The seah is weighted counterbel weights are made of

The production of man w pends upon the degree of serior tion in this country is probably 150,000 tons. Weights are sept wi makes exported to Bouth Amo wherever they may go.

The aggregate weight of the comb modern buildings may be country Produce Exchange there are profrom sixty to eighty tone of a weights; in the Hotel Majestic n than forty tons.

At Fort Monroe some time where one of the vessels of the was temporarily awaiting order delegation of army officers statione the fort came aboard. There is a naval regulation that sothing can so on board ship until the command officer orders it. While the army pe were looking over the ship, twe proached the captain and said, with salute: "It is twelve e'clock, "Make it so." responded the capta and eight bells were struck. The ar officers suspected that the navy n wanted them to ask some questions get sold, or that this was a bit of f ery got up to joke the land warr Some time after, a party of the ar-officers invited the officers of the w-ship to dine with them. The din was progressing when a lieutenant "Colonel, present, said, gravely: Major's blind horse is dead." it so," responded the Colonel with greatest gravity, and the dinner p ceeded. Nothing was said at the tis but the navy officers tell the story.

Weight of Various Metals. Cast fron weighs 444 pounds to cubic foot and a one-inch square will sustain a weight of 16,500 pour bronse, weight 525 pounds, touse 36,000; wrought Iron, weight 480, 1 selty 50,000; hard "struck" etsel, weig 490, tenacity 78,000; aluminum, weig 168, tenacity 26,000. We are sectomed to think of metals as bet stronger than wood, and so they generally speaking, if only pieces the same size be tested. weights of these two materials compared it is then found that seve varieties of wood are stre dinary steel. A bar of heavy as a bar of steel an in will hold up 125,000 pownds, the ash 175,000 pounds, and some lock 200,000 pownds. Wood is b It occupies ten or twelve times for the United States navy have a acity of 65,000 to 75,000 pounds to square inch. By solidifying so under s