LOOKING BACKWARD.

He never thinks a man is truly great until he's dead. And then he wipes away a tear and quotes what he has said. He talks about the nations that long since have passed away, And mourns when he compares them with the nations of to-day.

He talks about his boybood and the fun that folks had then; He talks about the actors that we ne'er shall see again. He vows that everything worth while long since has gone before, And life to him is just one grand, sweet funeral-nothing more. -Washington Star.

CIRCUMSTANTIAL EVIDENCE.

With a sigh of content and love and

and drew her close to him for a mo-

In the magnetism of her presence

"Adele, were you ever in Dorking?"

She opened wide her eyes and an-

She laughed softly and, folding ber

"Now am I indeed on the rack. Why

riosity to know the reason for placing

At her irrevelant answer his doubts

rose again, and he rather sternly re-

peated his question, with a request for

"Tom Spencer - Tom Spencer

name?" she queried softly, as if to

herself. "I certainly don't know any

Tom Spencer, but I believe I have

there any more conundrums for me?

He laughed and watched her disap-

A month passed, and during this

him in the doubt which would creep in

whenever he thought of that letter

wealth had palled upon her, or that

with that "infinite variety" which was

her greatest charm. One night when

they had returned from a dance he de

cided to make a full confession to her

and to ask her for an explanation.

She had thrown herself into an easy

chair and looked even fairer than usu-

Making a final effort he began and

rapidly be told her all-all about the

letter, his doubts and despair and the

unhappiness he felt whenever he

thought of the matter. While he was

twisting the rings on her slender fin-

at him with a slow, amused smile

"Now I understand those questions

you asked me about Tom Spencer.

Yes, that was the name-and I know

"Well, what of Tom Spencer? Who

"He is a creature of my own im

agination, and once having created

series of letters. You got hold of the

beginning of the story. I was called

He drew her up to him and then,

For answer she put her arms round

"If you'll promise never to doubt me

The promise and the forgivene

were consummated in one long kiss.

A week later in a local paper Rob-

"Dorking, April 23 .- Mr. William

Spencer, an old and respected citizen

of this city, died yesterday afternoon.

The deceased had long been a sufferer from paralysis, but his death was un-

expected. He leaves one son, Mr. Thomas Sponces, with whom he lived, to mourn his loss."—Waverley Maga-

ert Malcolm happened on the follow

with his arms around her, he asked in

away that day, and never thought

again of my literary venture."

"Adele, will you forgive me?"

his neck and then replied softly:

a husky whisper:

dered where I had heard the name."

creeping over her face.

"And now, you dear cross ogre, are

heard the name somewhere."

me in the witness box?"

a direct reply.

Suddenly he asked her:

"No. dear, why do you ask?"

"Just curiosity." Then, after

CONTRACTOR OF THE CONTRACTOR O

OBERT MALCOLM had never commonplace tones, 'Have you been

been called "Bob" by any one shopping?" until his recently acquired wife. with a coquettish pretense of shyness, relief he threw his arms round her had so addressed him.

He had known her but a short time ment. Then she sented herself oppowhen he won her. And now, at the site him in a low chair, where the end of six blissful months, he was sit- firelight fell on her face, bringing out ting inshis splendid library, perplexed all its charm, and miserable, and gloomily eveing the sembers of a grate fire and trying to her husband became almost happy persuade himself that the shadow once more—until the memory of that which threatened to wreck his future letter came back to sting him. could be explained away if only he had the courage to ask her.

On coming home that afternoon he had gone to the sitting room and had swered: found it empty. Turning to leave he mw a plece of note paper lying on the or, as though it had been brushed off pause, he added: "Did you ever know ber desk as she rose in a hurry. In a man named Tom Spencer?" stooping to replace it, his eye caught two words, the beginning of a letter- dainty hands, replied: "Dear Tom." Dear Tom! Could it be that there was a dear Tom in her life; torture my innocent soul with the cuof whom he knew nothing? The letter read:

"Dear Tom-If I were to be asked why I am writing to you I should have to admit that I am yielding to an im pulse. My whole life has been made of impulses, and I never battled with them but once-alas, the very time I should have yielded. You know well what I mean, that night you renounced me, renounced me while your blood was on fire with love for me, which I knew and felt and revelled in when your eyes dumbly begged me to refuse to be renounced and your lips Because, if you have finished, I will told me it would be better to part. Ah. go and dress for dinner. if I had only yielded then to the impulse to tell you I loved you well pear through the door. enough to share your poverty and the task of caring for your poor, helpless time Robert Malcolm tried to detect a father. How well I remember that flaw in his wife's devotion to justify dear, delightful, cruel summer in Dork-

"You came, dear, and you stepped But it was in vain that he sought an into my heart with that first smile on explanation in her manner. There your brave, sunny face. Then, after- was nothing about her to suggest that ward. Aunt Sarah, when I told her of our betrothal, said in her icy, sneering without poverty and Tom Spencer her tones: I congratulate you upon your life was a blank. She was as ever discretion. It is a fitting thing that sirily affectionate, daintily tyrannical, your early poverty be merged into mid-**Gle-aged** and elderly poverty. As Tom encer's wife you will have the satisfaction of knowing that you have be fore you such a life as your mother has led, only intensified, since your life will be encumbered by his helpees. paralytic old father.'

"Tom, dear, do not utterly despise me when I tell you that her words had their weight. I did not fear the poverty, for 1 knew you were bound to ncceed, if only, dear one, you were hampered in your career by your father. I knew you were fond of him, and that while he lived you would keep him with you-that even I could not influence you to send him away. So when you told me we had better part I offered no protestation. I knew your beart was aching and that you needed comforting words from me. . knew I had only to speak one word to break me. down the barrier and have you take me to your heart forever. I did not is he?" meak that word. Though my heart eried out to you I could not tell you that I loved you well enough to share your burden. I did not speak that word. I am married now. My husbond loves me, and I am rich beyond my fondest expectations. I have all ed. those things which my luxurious and expensive tastes craved-vet I am not happy. This is indeed my farewell. deer one. You know now-every word in this letter has told you-what you are to me. You will not misunderstand-you will not come to me. It is ever, Tom, and-"

Here the writing ended abruptly. Robert Malcolm was a loyal man, and though the evidence was against er be refused to believe his wife guilof all that the letter implied. He Id himself that if he dared to ask her top an explanation she would give it. d it would be satisfactory. To ask er to confess a dishonorable act was to confess a lack of confidence in

While he was sitting there the door ed noiselesly. A slight girlish figstole across the thick carl hands ole across the thick carpet and fore his eyes and a

who It is." beart gave a great bound and ok the bands down and kissed Finally, as if satisfied with

be saw, be naked: seeined supplied at the trivial ton following so closely upon seating she had undergone, and

SCIENTIFIC BEET CULTURE.

A Department of Berlin Agricultural School Devoted to It.

A department of the agricultura high school at Berlin was recently es tablished which is devoted entirely to the study of the scientific culture o

omizes firstly the present state of the when the trees are in bloom. Pear sugar industry in Germany. It is rec trees protected with coverings, after ognized here above all that the abc the analogy of mosquito nets, which lition of export bounties by the Brus prevented bees from reaching their sels conference ended definitely a lon blossoms, were unaffected with blight. and important chapter in the histor while other neighboring trees not thus of beet-sugar production and that th protected were badly blighted. Other industry, deprived of that form of art, honey-seeking insects besides bees also ficial stimulus, must henceforth wor carry infection. studied and skillfully applied, alon the refined sugar with the utmost skill where have I seen or heard that and equipped to teach.

******************* FISH THAT ARE NOT FISH.

proximity to the canoe. Seated in the ments for several years. bow, I turned to the native who was in the pond.

"Fish? No. sir-no fish, sir."

talking she was looking down and "Yes, but-I beg your pardon-Ia moment ago saw what I took to be gers. When he finished she looked up break the water not six feet from the glass wallbow of the canoe."

"No. fish, sir-no fish,"

"Oh, yes, that was a salmon. There are plenty of trout and salmon in a these waters, but no fish, sir. You Picturesque Craft Used by Natives in why the name seemed familiar to know we don't count anything as fiel in these parts but codfish, sir."

CARRIED OFF BY AN EAGLE.

King of Birds.

Thomas I straightway forgot him. While a little girl, about 18 mouth When you asked me that day I won-"What do you mean?" he demand-"Only this, Bob-but first you must promise not to laugh at me." She stopped, looking at him anxiously. He nodded impatiently, and she went on. "Some time ago I conceived the idea of being literary. I thought out a story found by a gamekeeper, says the Lon like over the swelling tide" with the and decided that I would depart from don Express. the usual routine and have it told in a

At first there was no clew to the mystery of her sudden disappearance The little one had been playing in the sunshine while her mother was baking bread and her father was still at worl

pared tea and called the child. there was no response, she went ou to look for her and not seeing her any where became alarmed and went h

search of her busband. Meanwhile a gamekeeper's part was hunting through the dense broom which covered a neighboring hill an while this investigation was in pros ress one of the gamekeepers, recalling stories of lambs being carried awa by eagles, made his way toward th rocky crags near the crest of the hill In a crevice in the rocks he saw a tin shoe and in a deep cleft a little highe up he found the body of the missin

and killed a deer in Sutherlandship and fed on its body until the keepe devre it off. Lambs are sometim ed and their skeletons afterwar found on the hilltops. It is fifty years

A girl who uses paint ion't so by the picture of busits.



Among the vegetable products pebeet sugar. Beet sugar cultivation or rullar to Madagescar is the fibrous suban industrial scale in Germany date; stance known as rafia, which the naf om but little more than fifty year lives weave on hand looms into a vaago, says a consular report, and to riety of fabrics, used for sacking, for ward the end of the '60s there was fraperles, and occasionally for dress established in connection with the ag goods. Under the name "rabanas," a ricultural high school a small work striped and colored variety of this maing laboratory which, under the direc berial is sold for curtains in the Amertion of Prof. Dr. Scheibier, devoted ican market. Recently a new use has its somewhat restricted facilities to the been found for raffa fiber in the manucause of scientific sugar production. facture of cigarette paper, and our There were then in Germany abou consul at Tamatave, Mr. Hunt, sug-180 more or less primitive sugar far gests it might prove valuable for makplied in 1900 to 300 factories, which mental purposes in European gardens. consumed 13,200 tons of beets, or m Man has just learned how to fice average of more than 33,000 tons b from the malaria-bearing mosquito, each establishment. Meanwhile, the and now, if he could, he would teach requirements of the time had far trans pear trees to avoid the blight-carrying ended the capacity and facilities o boney bee. Experiments conducted in the institute founded by Prof. Schell California, and recently reported to ler, and the new spacious and com the Botanical Society of America, inpletely equipped establishment nov dicate that bees are active agents in opened and dedicated to its work epil the spread of pear blight at the period

out its own future upon new and it Dr. Max Wolf, of Heldelberg, has dependent lines. It is to be a batti photographed a remarkable nebula in in which scientific methods, profound; the constellation Cyngus, which, on accan win. To concentrate all the light lea nebula." It is the first time that count of its shape, he calls the "Amerwhich science can give upon the tas such an object has been named for earth. Dr. Wolf's photograph shows a of beets with the highest percentage o really striking likeness to an outline saccharine element, to harvest the map of North America. The softly crop, extract, cleanse and evaporat glowing nebula represents the form of the juice, and to conduct each step of the continent surrounded by the dark the process down to the marketing o background of the heavens as by an and avoidance of waste—this is the les south, the huge gap of the Gulf of son which the new institute is designe Mexico, and the graceful curve of the coast of Central America and the isthmus are to be seen.

Prof. Charles Baskerville, of the University of North Carolina has disple and all other ple is pastry. It up He has named one of them carolinium, pears from the following story, tole in honor of his State, and the other row hull. by the author of "Caribou Shooting it berzellum, after the name of the great Newfoundland," that there is a sim Swiss chemist, Berzelius. Both the ilar distinction between fish and fish new elements are radio-active, giving So Prevalent in Chicago that It Affords On our way into the interior o off rays that penetrate metals, wood Newfoundland part of our route was and other substances, and that are caover a lovely lake, five miles long by pable of producing photographic and about three-fourths of a mile wide visible light effects. Like other radio-We had not proceeded far when | active elements, they are of high atwater break with a splash in clos been on the track of these new ele-

A German experimenter describes a handling the paddle in the stern, and singular electric phenomenon exhibited inquired whether there were any fish ov a glass tubeful of radium bromide. Presently, when about half-way in later the experimenter was about to the lake, and just as the sun was open the tube with a file, but as soon peeping over the eastern horizon, I as the metal touched the glass the tube saw not six feet from the bow of the was pierced by a brilliant electric canoe a magnificent salmon rise to spark, accompanied by a sharp sound the surface, and with a swish of his it is thought that the retention in the tail disappear to the depths. Again tube of the positively charged Alpha turned to my friend with the remark particles, which cannot penetrate glass, "Daddy, did I understand you to sa; and the continual escape of the negathat there were no fish in this lake? tively charged Beta particles, which do penetrate glass, set up a difference in the electric potential inside and out-

QUEER BOATS OF THE ORIENT. the Far Lust.

To the eyes of the Westerner, unof the ocean that, fey cold, gnaws Little Girl of 18 Months Killed by away at his coast, now and again tossing upon the beaches to bones of another of its victims, the gingerbread old, the only daughter of a young boats of the Far East seem queer in Sutherlandshire crofter, living about a lead. One wonders how the dugouts, mile from Invershin station, on the the shallow boats with their sails of Highland railway, was playing at he matting, the unsymmetrical craft with father's cottage door one evening at low bows and grotesque overhanging eagle swooped down, gripped her b sterns, can weather storms, says the its claws and carried her off to the Montreal Family Herald. And most mountains, where, some hours later wonderful of all is that wizard of the desk is right where the box of toothher dead and mutilated body was sen, the flying pror of Guam, which speed of the flying Deutschland, and on which, it has been asserted, one all," she remarked, "they seem unable nay travel to an island ninety miles to break themselves of the habit. After turn while the hour hand circles once ground the dial. An acquaintance with hese boats convinces one that the law Her baking finished, the mother pre of the survival of the fittest holds true in this respect as in others.

The flying pros is aptly named. As one leans indolently over the rall of the steamer, dropping anchor in the Lairone islands, glad once more to see and, one observes in the distance a rlangular sall. It seems to be flying ver the water. It quickly draws near, and is seen to be attached to a queer ooking craft about thirty feet long The mast is set in the middle of the narrow hull, hardly more than two feet wide, and at each end is sented a native, with paddle in hand. From me side protrude pieces of bamboo, which support at their ends, eight or en feet from the bellying side of the out and parallel to it, an outrigger. is pointed end, flying along just above he water, now and again tops the rests of the waves, throwing up little ets of spray as it does so. Skimming long with the lightness and speed of in ice yacht, the two curious natives are soon far ahead of the anchored steamer. Then something odd happens. The craft falls away from the

slightly, the sail is swung half way first telephone Made in CHICAGO. round, and this queer craft is coming back along its track. The bow has queer vessel scuds past again on the other sid- of the steamer, revealing an- was used in 1875. other oddity. This side of the hull is

perpendicular and as flat as a board. In Northern India, in the shadow of the unsurmountable Himslayss, a craft quite the opposite to the flying third Illinois. Before the war he had pros in speed and siry gracefulness is used. It must be slower even than the It was during the war that the possiancient basketlike coracle of the Weishman. It is an inflated bullock Morse instrument and transmitting skin. The natives do not look exactly like jolly Bacchuses as they paddle their was across the swift Sutlej river tories, which worked up annually 700 ing other kinds of paper. The rafia astride their uncouth craft. India has, 000 tons of beets. These had multi plant has long been grown for ornacraft as one could find in any country. Nearly every port has its peculiar coll telegraph sounder," in the rooms

type. Some of the Indian boats have no in the Gardner House. To the amazemasts at all. Such are the river houseboots in Northern India, which one may charter for \$20 or \$30 a month for a season, this sum paying for the servlees of a family of servants to do all the work, including moving the boat as often as desired. The servants live in the rear of the boat, while the remainder is occupied by those who are seeking relief from the fervid heat of the sun in this way. Many of the Malayan boats have overhanging galleries at both bow and stern for convenience of operation. Some have sails of matting, suggesting oriental banners as they hang from the masts.

The Asiatic watermen and their boats are inseparable, and in India, Siam and China thousands are born, live and die on them. In Hongkong harbor 20,000 live in boats, and in Canof producing most economically from any of the natural divisions of the 200,000. Their boats are arranged in blocks and lanes by the authorities. Sometimes one sees in a Chinese port a boat which is peculiar, not because of its appearance, but because of its use. This is the floating warehouse for the storage of the curse of the Chinese, oplum.

Among the skillful watermen are the Hawailans, who, like many of the other Polynesians, have a boat with an outrigger. The play of the Polynesian centers about his canoe, and there is said to be no sport in any country covered two new chemical elements, which surpasses the surf riding of the ailled to thorium, from which the man- Hawaiians. In the Philippine islands Somebody has said that apple ple h ties of Weisbach burners are derived. may be seen a narrow boat with two ontriggers, one on each side of the nar-

TOOTHPICK HABIT.

a Clue to Character.

We have the drink bubit, the cardplaying habit, the tobacco habit-in tact, habits innumerable, but there is one habit of which little has been said, thought I could occasionally see the amic weight. Prof. Baskerville has although it is present among us. It is the toothpick habit, and it is as hrmly rooted in those who have it as any of the more objectionable ones.

Observe a man coming down State street early in the morning. He has The substance had been sealed up in one of the little bits of wood in his the tube in December, 1902. Six months mouth. Now, here is where a little character reading comes in. If he be of a quick, high-strung, nervous temperament, in a few minutes' time he will have chewed up one end of it and turned the other end in his mouth to masticate. This end is also soon re duced to pulp and a fresh toothpick takes its place. He reaches his place of business or employment, but the toothpick still sticks there, nor does he have his mouth free of one until his stock is entirely exhausted or he is side the tube so great that at last a tired out. In the former case a match twelve or fifteen pound salmor spark was able to pass through the is resorted to or a few toothpicks borrowed from a neighbor, which he will repay when he obtains a fresh stock at the reseaurant where he eats his

Cool, phiegmatic persons will keep a toothpick in their mouths for several hours. A man of moody or trouaccustomed to the wild, viking nature bled mind will let his toothpick drop listlessly downward; a man with his mind intent on one thing will close his teeth on it and it will stick out straight, while a happy-go-lucky person, or one with mind free from care. will have his toothpick at an upward angle, or constantly shifting about in the mouth. I tell you, that habit is n great index to a man's thoughts and

characteristics. The cashier of a leading cafe, whose picks is, says the habit is growing to such an extent as to keep them busy filling the box anew. "And worst of away, transact one's business and re- gazing furtively around, a man will grab up a handful of toothpicks and hastily thrust them in his vest pocket with a guilty look."-Chicago Journal,

> Extending the Loan. Old Mr. Dobson was nothing if not neighborly, but in the case of the Perkinses he really felt that a line must be drawn smewhere. It was the ofth time that week that little Sammy Perkins had been over to borrow some-

thing, and this was only Wednesday. "Please, Mr. Dobson, mother says won't you lead her your lawn-mower for about an hour or two?"

Mr. Dobson scratched his head dubiously. "Well, sonny, 'deed I can't," he said, at last. "I'll be needing it now, straight through the summer, on and on. But I'll tell you what," he added. when he saw the youngster's downcast countenance. "There's the snow-shovel she borrowed last January; I'll let her keep that a bit longer.

A Frenk or the Language "That's strange,"

What's strange?"

The American college athletes were beaten in the long runs, and yet they won easily in the long run."-Cleve-

Chicago is claimed as the birthplace become stern, and he who sat there of the telephone. At Michigan and when the pros flew past is now the Jackson boulevards, on the site of the With wind still abeam, the present Stratford Hotel, in the old Gardner House, the first telephone

The instrument was the invention of Henry C. Strong, a journeyman printer, and a veteran of the Civil War, who had served in the Ninetylearned telegraphy in New York City. bility of using a closed circuit on a sounds of the human voice by it occurred to him. As early as 1872 he interested the chaplain of the regiment, Rev. C. M. Barnes, in his theory.

In 1875 he set up the instrument, which he called "the Goodyear single of the Howser School of Telegraphy, ment of Dr. and Mrs. G. W. Howser,



PIRST TELEPHONE.

who were present at the experiment. Strong succeeded in securing communication with a station he had established at the stock yards.

In May, 1877, Strong patented his model, which consisted of an electric speaking telephone, a permanent magnet in a coll of insulated wire with a metal disphragm. In the meantime, in 1876, the Bell company had kecured a patent on an instrument which had been invented in the same year. Strong's patent infringed theirs in no way, as the principle on which the Bell telephone operated involved the use of an electro-magnet, while the Strong instrument was connected with s permanent magnet.

In September, 1877, there was a fire in the United States patent office. At some time between May and December the Strong model disappeared. In December, 1877, the Bell Telephone Company put in commercial use a model which bears a striking resemblance to the Strong. The case of the Strong patent, vested in the Atlantic and Western Telephone Company. against the Bell Company, is now pending in the United States, Circuit Court.-Chicago Journal.

HUMAN LIFE AND NATURE

Existence of Man Depends on Many Things-Evolution of Plants.

It is not easy to apprehend the fact that human life on the globe is dependent upon such incidents as cooperation with birds or the collateral evolution of certain plants, says the New York Tribune. Yet in has been ascreed by scientists that huma life, if possible at all on the globe, would be at a very low stage but for the co-existence of three or four famllies of plants-the cereal, the solanum, the paim and the rose families. Wherever we turn we find ourselves in interdependent relations with these four ailies. The palm alone, with its ancient representatives in the coal era, gives us not fewer than 1,000 varieties of valuable fruits and fibers. The solanum family gives us the potato, the tomato and tobacco; the cereal family gives us rice, on which onethird of the race mostly subsists; eats and corn for ourselves and our domesticated animals, as well as wheat and rye for bread, and the true grasses for animals. These last are simply undeveloped cereals. The rose family gives us nearly all the fruits ir our orchards and gardens, as well as the noblest of the , flowers : that adorn our lawns. Some representatives of each one of these families are found over the larger part of the hab-Itable globe.

An important evolution is still going on in plant life. We are more likely, however, to note the appearance of noxious plants than the development of those of sterling merit. These very weeds indicate a struggle for existence, in which struggle the oversight of man is required. Out of the crowding occasionally comes a plant of narvelous beneficence, liks the potato, In fact, the greater part of human effort is exerted in selecting from what nature produces and destroying the poorer product. Most of the finer apples, plums and cherries could not have struggled into dominance over the wild and crabbed fruit without our assistance. We are still getting on with second-rate things in our gardens and orchards because we have not had wit enough to prevent some of the choicest from being lost.

His Sage Precaution. .. "One night, quite a spell ago," said the Old Codger, at a regular session of the Sit and Argue Club, "I slept on my back, and dreamed that a fairy came and gave me a fortune.

"Just before retiring on the follow-ing night I tied a towel firmly around my waist, with a hard knot right in the middle of my back. That night I slept on my side; and, next day, when the gold brick man showed up. I was clear-headed enough to recognize him at sight, and set the dog on him."

Temporarily Closed for Repolfs. Medigger-Small told Biggar yeare day that he was a crook; said he knew ie was a thief, because Biggar couldn't look him in the eye.

Thingumbob-That's true, too. McJigger-Yes, but it's also true hat Small can't look bimself in the eye this morning.-Philadelphia Pr