ble nature, and gum, while the rocky conglom fragmentsof in thickness fro. twelve feet, nad of earth called c

The mode : cavated is as through the char to a said to lavers till the solt carro reached below. a en argest to til it is wide enouunit of acsumul boy being let do-· scropes avthe earth below Jenre 80 as 10 form a little ha and Into this a charge of gunp. introduced and subsequently exp The caliche is then separated 1. be of packs from the overlying cos carried to the refinery. Both in ance and composition it varies ..., much. In color it may be snow white, hiphur, lemon, erange, violet, blue and sometimes brown, like raw sugar.-Blackwood's

The Age of Fresh Eggs.

Magazine.

As to just how old the eggs may be when they get into the hands of the consumer in this town is a matter for conjecture, and a task that would cause pleasant thrills in one inclined to mathematics. Any one who has ever spent any time in the country and made a proper use of his eyes knows it is the abit of farmers to keep their eggs until they have a certain quantity before disposing of them.

The farmers may collect the eggs for an entire week and then dispose of them, or they may keep them for two weeks before the huckster gets them. That depends entirely upon the number of eggs which that particular farmer's hens will lay in a given period.

The hucksters go about the country once or twice a week the dealers say. They gather the eggs here and there, and when they have gathered a certain quantity turn them over to the shippers.

The shippers, in turn, hold the eggs until they, too, obtain a certain quantity and then consign them to the dealers in this city. When the eggs get here finally the dealers say they have received a shipment of fresh eggs, and mean it too.

The dealers maintain that an egg two weeks old in ordinary weather is just as good as an egg that is not more than twenty-four hours old. In fact, they make bold to say they would eat an egg two weeks old just as soon as one two hours old, and relish it just as much .-New York Evening Sun.

The Year 1881.

The year 1881 was a chronological oddity of the oddest kind, besides being a mathematical curiosity seldom equaled. From right to left and left to right it reads the same. Eighteen divided by 2 gives 9 as a quotient; 81 divided by 9 gives 9; if divided by 9 the quotient contains a 9; if multiplied by 9 the product contains two 9s; 1 and 8 are 9; 8 and 1 are 9. If the 18 be placed under the 81 and added the sum is 99; if the figures be added thus-1, 8, 8, 1-it will give 18 as the result. Reading from the middle from right to left or from left to right it is 18. and 18 is two-ninths of 81. By adding, dividing and multiplying, 10 9s are produced, being one 9 for each year to the beginning of the last decade of the Nineteenth century.

No wonder the fortune tellers, the astrologers and the mathematicians weave so many strange fancies around that curious combination of figures. It may have been what induced Mother Shipton to end her prophetic jingle with, "And at last the world to an end shall come in eighteen hundred and eighty-one."-St. Louis Republic.

A Very Old English Cloth.

Fustian is a species of cotton cloth much used by the Normans, particularly by the clergy, and appropriated to some orders for their cashubles. The Cistercians were forbidden to wear them made of any material but linen or fustian. A stronger description was first manufactured in England, at Norwich, temp. Edward VI.

It was much used for doublets and jackets in the Fifteenth century, at which time it appears to have been imported from Italy. "Fustians of Naples" are named in a petition to parliament from the manufacturers of Norwich, 1 Philip and Mary, 1554. The name was corrupted in England into "fustianapes" and "fustian and spee," i. e., "fustian a Naples."—Notes and Queries

Scared Burgiars by His Voice.

The ventriloquist, Fred Maccabe, has put his special gift to good use. Retiring late one night he tossed about for some time unable to fall asleep, and then, hearing footsteps down stairs, he felt convinced that thieves had got into the house. Crawling down stealthily close to where they were at work he, by means of ventriloquism, began a con-

versation and hullaballoo in many voices: "Here they are! Bring the lights! There they go! Shoot, shoot them quick!" The whole gang of burglars thereupon bolted in panic, leaving all their intended plunder behind.-London Tit-Bits.

A Sufficient Recommendation.

Little Dick-Aren't you goin to call on that new neighbor across the street? Mamma (hesitatingly)-I don't know anything about her yet.

Little Dick-Oh, she's all right. She's the mother of that new boy I play with.

Books Versus Light and Air. Better live in a house without windows than in a house without books .--Ram's Horn.

Two Mythical Islands.

ous account of two islands, "distant from Kesneacoran about 500 miles toward the south, and about thirty miles ited by a company of men without a single woman among them, the other by women without the company of men. They are called, respectively, the Island of Males and the Island of Females." Geographers and others interested in the curiosities of history and navigation have made many attempts to ascertain the exact location of these fantastically named little specks in the great ocean; but even after so much research and forced to admit that their whereabouts is doubtful in the extreme.

Some believe them to be identical with the Footnote islands, near Socota. for human habitation, besides being too near the shores of the Red sea to correspond with those mentioned by Marco Polo. The most probable conclusion that has yet been arrived at is that Se rodah, a small island on the west coast of India, is the celebrated "Island of Females," it being the resort of dancing girls and women who retire to the place for a summer's outing after a hard winter's work on the continent.

As far as Marco Polo's "Island of Males" is concerned it is irretrievably lost, the combined efforts of the geogsaphers, the historians and the travelers not being equal to the task of bringing it from the mysterious mists which have hidden it for centuries.-St. Louis Re-

Boards of Trade in Western Cities.

The novelty in western life is the inevitable combination of leading citizens pledged to promote the best interests of their town. Such a body is variously called a board of trade, a chamber of commerce or a commercial club. It is the burning glass which focuses the public spirit of the community. Its most competent officer is usually the highly salaried secretary. He does for his town what a railroad passenger agent or a commercial traveler does for his employers, that is to say, he secures business. He invites manufacturers to set up workshops in his city, offering a gift of land or of land and money or of exemption from taxation for a term of years. The merchants, and perhaps the city officials also, support his promises. In a South Dakota city I have known a fine brick warehouse to be built and given, with the land under it, to a wholesale grocery firm for doing business there. In a far northwestern city there was talk of sending a man east on salary to stay away until he could bring back capital to found a smeltery.

These boards of trade often organize local companies to give a city what it needs. They urge the people to subscribe for stock in associations that are to build electric railways, opera houses, hotels, convention halls, water supply and illuminating companies, often dividing an acknowledged financial loss for the sake of a public gain. Thus these boards provide the machinery by which the most ambitious, forward and enterprising communities in the world expend and ptilize their energy.-Julian Ralph in Harper's.

Salamander from Artesian Wells.

Mr. H. G. Zimm Ind., recently discovered in a trench leading from an artesian well a good sized and very lively mud puppy or water dog. This well is eight miles north of Huron, S. D., and is 1,250 feet deep. Everybody was confident that the reptile came from the well, as there is no other water for miles and miles. Es head was shaped like that of our common catfish, its color was similar to that of the catfish, and it had bushy external gills, besides four legs.

Many conjectures as to what the ant mal could be were made; some persons thought it principally fish, others lizard, and the most general conclusion was that the thing was a mongrel between the two. A genius (Proteus) belonging to the same family as the above (which we take to be Necturus), and found in caves in southwestern Austria, is blind and colorless. Mr. Zimmerman states specifically that the puppy found by him had a good pair of eyes and was dark in color. Lake Byron, twelve miles north of where this batrachian was found, is said to furnish good fishing.-Forest and Stream.

Where Artists Blunder.

"I never saw an artist yet who could correctly paint a horseshoe," remarked a friend of mine, pausing before a Broadway picture store. "They invariably paint it with an equal number of nails on each side-sometimes three, sometimes four, and even five nails. As a matter of fact, there are four on one side and three on the other, the extra nail being on the inside of the foot, where the greatest strain comes."

Which reminds me of the lines of a distinguished American poet in which he sweetly depicts the drowsy cattle or a summer's day lazily lapping the cooling waters of the crystal stream. The same peculiarity is also poetically attributed to the horse and other animals, the model of the poet having probably been the house cat.-New York Herald.

Livery of Parlor Maids.

English parlor maids wear a distinct livery, not often, though occasionally, seen in New York houses. This consists usually of a plain, long, black or dark woolen skirt, a loose, open jacket of the same material, and either a white vest with gilt or ornamented buttons or a vest made of livery stripes. With this are worn cap and apron.-New York

A Puzzled Yankee.

A story is told of Lord Grosvenor, who, while traveling in this country. was asked by a Yankee how he got his living. My lord replied that he did not work, as his father supported him. "What a dear old gentleman," said the Yankee; "how will you ever manage to live when he dies?"- San Francisco Ar-

FACTS FOR AN OBITUARY.

Marco Polo's "Travels" gives a curi. The Good Men Do Lives After Them and

Is Detailed to the Reporters. As disagreeable a duty probably as any that ever falls to the lot of a refrom each other, the one being inhab- porter is the getting of facts for the obituary notices of persons who are not especially prominent. Newspaper men always shrink from the work and are loath to enter a house of mourning The exigencies of the profession demand it, however, and strange as it may seem. sometimes the men actually have comical experiences.

This is best illustrated by the narration of a recent occurrence in New York. A death notice had been restudy the European as well as the Amer- ceived late in the evening, and to the ican geographical societies have been trained eye of the night city editor bore all the earmarks of a "good obituary." These are indicated by the penmanship of the notice, the location of the home of the deceased, the name, the wording but these last named are now too small | and numerous other minor details, such as one unfamiliar with newspaper work would scarcely notice.

The reporter assigned to the task proceeded to the residence given with a lead ing akin to a desire to exchange places with the corpse. In response to the ring of the bell an airish young woman, presumably the widow of an elderly man, opened the door of the house, which was in a good neighborhood. The reporter introduced himself and the subject as

delicately as possible. "Oh, I'm delighted to see you." replied the woman effusively, in answer to the deprecating words of the man. "I've always wanted to see a reporter," she added, looking curiously at the specimen before her, as though astonished at see-

ing a respectably appearing individual. Then followed the ordinary questions by which the reporter found out when and where the man was born, where he was educated, the list of clubs and fraternal lodges of which he was a member, whether he had fought in the war, and a dozen other things.

"It does seem so strange," remarked the woman. "Here I am telling you all these things, and he will never read your article. He would have been so pleased. You know, he was a literary man himself."

"Indeed?" said the reporter, brighten ing up at the prospect of swelling his stickful of matter to at least a quarter column. "I had forgotten to ask the occupation. Will you kindly furnish me with a list of his works?"

"Oh, he didn't write books!" "Magazine articles?" queried the reporter, with wavering hopes. 'No," said the woman.

"Newspaper man perhaps?" asked the reporter sadly, for his imaginary quarter column had again shrunk to an actual stickful "He did not write at all," remarked

the woman, at last brought to bay. "What!" said the reporter, his curiosity at last thoroughly aroused, "not even for trade papers, advertising liter-

ature, theatrical posters, programmes." "No. His father was an editor, though," exclaimed the woman, with a pleased smile, "and he worked for a publisher. He had the agency for Long Island of the Cyclopedia of Useful Information.' Of course you need say nothing about that. Just write it down that he lived a simple, Christian life and was engaged in literary pursuits."-New York Herald.

And Yet He Gave Him Six Months. A fine, stalwart man, with a frank. open expression, was arraigned for stealing a pair of shoes from a dealer. "Did you steal the shoes?" asked the judge. "He caught me, judge, with the shoes and the box in my hand. I'll tell you how it was," began the complainant, but he was cut short and reminded that the prisoner had pleaded guilty. "How did you come to steal the shoes? You look like a hard working man," remarked the court. "Well, I stole them, judge, and he caught me," was the reply. He was committed for six months. The judge remarked later: "I was rather taken with that man. He came up to the bar like a Marc Antony, not with the sleek expression, 'Your honor,' or a whine of any kind. Had he given me any good excuse I would have been very lenient with him, for if I am not very much mistaken in my judgment he is no thief, but an unfortunate fellow who was pinched by poverty."-Brooklyn

Cartyle's View of Aprons.

Carlyle in his "Sartor Resartus" was able to find a deep philosophy in aprons. "Aprons are Defenses; against injury to cleanliness, to safety, to modesty, sometimes to roguery. From the thin slip of notched silk (as it were, the emblem and beatified Ghost of an Apron), which some highest bred housewife has gracefully fastened on; to the thick tanned hide girt around him with thongs, wherein the builder builds and at evening sticks his trowel; or to those jingling sheet iron aprons, wherein your other-wise half naked Vulcans hammer and smelt in their smelt furnace—is there not range enough in the fashion and uses of this vestment?"

A Tree That Furnishes Beal Lace. The lacebark tree grows in the West Indies. It is a lofty tree, with ovate, entire, smooth leaves and white flowers. It is remarkable for the tenacity of its inner bark and the readiness with which the inner bark may be separated—after maceration in water-into layers resembling lace. A governor of Jamaica is said to have presented to Charles II a cravat, frill and ruffles made of it.-Goldthwaite's Geographical Magazine.

Another Plan. Aged Admirer-Think of all the luxuries a rich husband like me could give

Miss De Young-Oh, a rich father would do just as well. Marry my mother.-New York Weekly.

A Well Made Rope. A rope two inches in diameter has run at a speed of between 4,000 and 5,000 feet per minute, day and night, for eight years without having apparently approached its limit of durability .- Power.

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ALittle Girls Experenceina Light house.

Mr. and Mrs, Loren Trescott are keepers of the Gov. Lighthouse at Sand Beach Mich, and are blessed with a daughter, four years. Last April she taken down with Measles, followed with dreadful Cough and turned into a fever. Doctors at home and at Detroit treated, but in vain, she grew worse rapidly, until she was a mere" handful of bones". -Then she tried Dr, King's New Discovery and after the use of two and a half bottles, was completely cured. They say Dr. King,s New Discovery is worth its weight in gold, yet you may get a trial bottle free at F. G. Frickey Drugstore.

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