

A CELESTIAL OPINION OF AMERICA AND AMERICANS



Young Chinaman, Educated at Harvard, Writes a Book of Scathing Criticism of the People of This Country.

ily standing. Political elevation cannot affect a man's status as a gentleman. I heard a lady of unquestioned position say that she admired President McKinley, but regretted that he was not a gentleman. She meant that he was not an aristocrat and did not possess the savoir faire, or the family association that completely rounds out the American or English gentleman. I asked this lady to indicate the gentlemen Presidents of the country. There were very few that I recall. There were Washington, Harrison, Adams and Arthur. Doubtless there were others which have escaped me. Lincoln, the strongest American type, she did not consider in the gentlemen class, and Gen. Grant, the nation's especial pride, did not fulfill her ideas of what a gentleman should be.

The "Four Hundred" set is mercilessly assailed. "Degeneracy marked some of their acts," he writes; "divorce blackened their records, and shameless affairs marked them." In

to her costume whereby her neck, her leg or her ankle is exposed she will be mortified beyond expression; yet the night previous you might have sat in the box with her at the opera, when her décolleté gown had made her the mark for hundreds of long-ettes. Again, this lady the next morning might bathe with me at the beach and lie on the sand basking in the sun like a siren in a costume that would arrest the attention of a St. Anthony.

"Let me describe such a costume. A pair of skin-tight black silk stockings, then a pair of tight black silk and a flimsy black skirt that comes just to the knee; a black silk waist, armless, and as low in the neck as the moral law permits, beneath which, to preserve her contour, is a waterproof corset. Limbs, to expose which an inch on the street were a crime, are blazoned to the world at Newport, Cape May, Atlantic City and other resorts, and often photographed



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this "set," and particularly its imitators throughout the United States, the divorce rate is appalling. Men leave their wives and obtain a divorce for no other reason than that a woman falls in love with another woman's husband.

The dress of American men and women, with the changing fashions and servile obedience of all to the god of fashion, is treated with the same caustic pen. Evening dress is described with considerable humor, and the opera hat interested the Celestial. "There is also a hat to go with the evening costume," he says, "a high hat which crushes in. You may sit on it without injury to yourself or hat. I know this by a harrowing experience."



Sings his part in an opera, a crowd of women, and a crowd of men, and ordinary circumstances

"One of the most extraordinary features of American life is the dress of women," he says. "The Americans make claim to being among the most modest, the most religious, the most proper people in the world, yet the appearance of the ladies at many public functions is beyond belief. They wear gowns in the French court fashion, with trains a yard or two in length, but the upper part cut so low that a large portion of the neck and shoulders is exposed. At my fashionable dinner I was embarrassed beyond expression; such an exhibition in China could only be made by a certain class. The women appear in full dress, which means that the arms and neck are exposed, and the men wear evening dress. The dances are mostly 'round.' The man takes a lady to the ball, and when he dances seizes her in an embrace which would be considered highly improper under ordinary circumstances, but the etiquette of the dance makes it permissible. He places his right arm around her waist, takes her left hand in his, holds her close to him, and both begin to move around to the special music designed for this peculiar motion."

"America has been from 1492 to the present time, the dumping ground of the world," writes this candid critic. "It is, perhaps, due to the climate, perhaps the water, or the air, but the product of these people born on the soil is described by no other word than American. It may be Irish-American, very offensive; Dutch-American, very strenuous; Jewish-American, very commercial; Italian-American, very dirty and reeking with garlic; but it is American, totally unlike its progenitor, a something into which is blown a tremendous energy, that is very wearisome, a bombast which is the sum of that of all nations, and a conceit like that possessed by — alone. You see it is insurable, also offensive—at least to the oriental mind. Yet I grant you the American is great; I have it from him and her; it must be so."

"The American pretends to be democratic; scoffs at England and other lands, but at heart he is an aristocrat. His tastes are only limited by his means, and not always then. The distinctions in society are so singular that it is almost impossible for a foreigner to understand them. In a general sense a retail merchant, a man who sold shoes or clothes, a tailor, would under no circumstances find a place in the first social circles; yet if these same tradesmen should change to wholesalers and give up selling one article at a time, they would become eligible to the best society. The vice-president is in society (the best); the President is not. Where else could this hold? Nowhere but in America.

"With us a gentleman is born; with Americans it is possible to create one, though rarely. An American gentleman is described as a product of two generations of college men who have always had associations with gentlemen and the advantages of fam-

and shown in the papers. To explain this manifest contradiction would be beyond the powers of an oriental had the presence of the immortal Confucius and the divination of a Mahomet and Hillel combined.

"Balls are a feature of American life. The women appear in full dress, which means that the arms and neck are exposed, and the men wear evening dress. The dances are mostly 'round.' The man takes a lady to the ball, and when he dances seizes her in an embrace which would be considered highly improper under ordinary circumstances, but the etiquette of the dance makes it permissible. He places his right arm around her waist, takes her left hand in his, holds her close to him, and both begin to move around to the special music designed for this peculiar motion."

Consumption of Tobacco.
The total receipts from tobacco from all sources were \$44,655,808.75 for the fiscal year, against \$43,514,810.24 for the fiscal year 1902-1903, or an increase of \$1,140,998.51. This increase is participated in by all branches of trade, except cigar manufacture—here we see a decrease of \$236,756.01. As cigar manufacturing shows the worst condition, so tobacco manufacture shows the best condition. Receipts for this branch of the trade exceeded the receipts for the previous fiscal year by \$1,077,790.02. The result of the year as a whole is satisfactory. In the fluctuation of business from year to year a uniformity of good condition in all lines can not be expected. The output of manufactured tobacco for the previous year, and aggregates the enormous amount of 328,650,710 pounds.—Western Tobacco Journal.

his overcoat. Such is the dignity and impressiveness of that tribunal that some men to whom embarrassment has long been a stranger evidence the renewal of their acquaintance with it by a stammering speech, a quickened breath, a nervous manner when addressing the court.

Kingdom in Central Africa.
Last acquired of King Edward's dominions are the Housa states, which lie in remotest, darkest Africa, hemmed in on one side by the trackless desert and on the other by a region notorious for the most degraded and most degraded types, with no religion but the cult of "Ju-Ju," has been for ages a Mussulman empire, with a population of many thousands, dwelling in fortified towns, each governed by its own king, but owing allegiance to a chief, the sultan of Socoto. Life within these cities recalls that of medieval Europe. Each is defended by a wall which forms a respectable defense. Kano, one of the most important of the Housa cities, possesses

IN THE SUPREME COURT.
"Distinguished Body Surrounded by Elaborate Formality."
As the hands of the clock point to 12 the chief of the Supreme Court of the United States rises with his gavel, the murmur of conversation ceases and attorneys, court officials and visitors rise while the chief slowly announces, "The honorable chief justice and the associate justices of the Supreme court of the United States." Robed in black silk gowns, they walk with slow and dignified steps toward the bench and as the chief justice appears at the entrance at the rear they slowly proceed to their seats.
At this the chief cries: "Oyez! Oyez! Oyez!" All persons having business before the honorable chief justice and the associate justices of the Supreme court of the United States are admonished to draw near and give their attention, for the court is now sitting. God save the government of the United States and this honorable court."
No man entering that domelike courtroom at Washington may wear

walls thirty feet high, with eleven gates, protected by moats and drawbridges. Over the gates are chambers for the garrison and flanking towers to shoot from. On the walls in discharge were stationed soldiers to time discharge poisoned arrows or to pour boiling oil on the attacking foe. Within such fortifications the Housa dwelt securely, in palaces, imposing in size, though, like all the rest of the buildings, made only of sun-baked mud.

He Needed It.
"Amazing are questions," said Gen. H. C. King, of New York, "that are showered on the unhappy attendants of public museums."
In London, one afternoon, I was standing near a museum guardian who wore a military uniform, with a helmet from which a chin strap hung.
"A youth approached the man and said:
"Would you mind telling me what that strap under your chin is for?"
"That," the attendant answered wearily, "is to rest my jaw when I get tired answering questions."

Trouble with the Baby.
Youngster in Immediate Need of "Financial Assistance."
Old man Wilkes and his wife had "pinched and saved" to send their eldest son to college. When William returned he seemed to have developed such an amazing fondness for "big" words that his father and mother found it exceedingly difficult ever to understand what he was talking about. Dr. Livermann, a young white doctor, who had been partially reared by "Uncle Ned," had an experience one night with William's "high-down" language, which experience was in a way an illustration of the daily obfuscation of Mr. and Mrs. Wilkes.
With rattling haste William rang the door bell of the doctor's office. Said he:
"Doctor, father wants you to come around to our domicile instant!"
"What's the trouble?" inquired Dr. Livermann.
"The baby has had a little financial difficulty, and father is anxious to secure forthwith your indispensable assistance."

SPORTSMEN'S COSTLY EQUIPMENT

Many Men of Wealth Buy \$700 Shotguns and \$60 Reels When Starting on an Outing—A Bungalow in the Mountains of Pennsylvania.

There are some men who stifle in the city crowds and tire of the interesting pursuit of making money, so when summer comes and the fiscal year ends, they tear themselves away from the strong, clinging, smothering arms of civilization and lose themselves for a month or two in the wildernesses of British Columbia or Arizona or the Adirondacks, where they can be alone with nature.

The big sportsmen, that is to say the wealthy ones, who like to get close to nature, are divided in their opinions as to where nature's boundlessness is most attractive. This year several Philadelphians are going to Arizona and British Columbia, for the Adirondacks are too near the influences of civilization not to have felt its touch.

While a common A tent, a cheap rifle, a revolver and a \$2.50 fishing rod, with a blanket and small cooking outfit, permit many a lover of the woods to enjoy his summer camp, there is another sportsman who does not count the cost, but perhaps that is because he is not good in addition of sums in three and four figures.

Of late years there have been a larger number of sportsmen who do not count the cost than ever. They want the best, and they get it; but they pay well for it. It is no extraordinary thing for a dealer in sporting goods to sell a \$30 reel, for instance. To make such a sale does not cause the salesman to show any unusual interest. Neither does he betray any excitement in making a sale of a couple of \$70 rifles or a pair of \$100 shotguns. They are common occurrences, although, as a matter of

as well admit that we don't carry them in stock. They have to be imported. The \$700 shotgun is a thing of beauty. It has Whitworth steel barrels and the stock is elegantly carved. It is made in England, and the man who will have it must pay the price, and the 45 per cent. duty on it does not lessen the cost, either. Yet, we sell them—occasionally. The man who can shoot, however, will fill his bag just as quickly with the \$100 gun.

"Now, it is different with the \$70 rifle. That is the most expensive rifle sold. It is a 30.30 caliber, but the bullet expands to twice its size after leaving the barrel, and the cartridge is a very long one. This is the most popular game rifle, and you can bring down any big game with it, excepting, perhaps, the elephant; but even an elephant might succumb if you knew where to hit and were right smart about pulling the trigger."

Was not the ammunition taken by the sportsman alluded to enough for a regiment? The salesman smiled.

"No; it is not too much for a party of that size—there were five or six going on the trip. They shoot at everything, you know, and it takes about the weight in lead expended for everything they actually killed for the larder. Bad marksmanship does more for the protection of game than the game laws. If every shot went to the bull's eye there would not be enough game left to preserve."

He was asked about the \$60 reel. Was it not extraordinary.

"Well," he answered, hesitatingly, "that reel is intended for tarpon fishing, but you can use it for other big fish. It is made of German silver, has beautiful bearings and is the strongest reel made. You see, and he drew one from a show case, "it is much larger than the usual reel. We don't, of course, sell so many of that size, although the \$30 reel is frequently sold. It differs principally in the matter of size."

The \$1,500 bill the wealthy sportsman left in this one establishment

directly from the forests and used in their rough state, without planing or dressing. The only finished woodwork used in the construction are the window-frames, sash and doors; also finished flooring. All other woodwork, excepting roof, which is of rough-sawn cedar shingles, is in its unfinished state. All interior walls and partitions are built of rough logs, with mortar-filled joints. The ceiling of the living hall is composed of large oak beams with plastering between same. All floors and finishing woodwork are simply oiled. The spacious fireplace in the hall is built of large, rough stones, with a stone shelf and a plastered niche above. The hearth is also of large flagstones. On either side is a comfortable seat, a book most eagerly sought on a chilly night, when there is no more inviting spot than a place in front of the burning pine logs. At either side of the hall are located the main bedrooms, which are spacious and well lighted, and between the same are the bathrooms.

The kitchen and pantry are situated at the rear of the hall; they contain all the necessary up-to-date appointments. The servants' quarters are located in the attic, where are also a storeroom, trunk room and tank room.—Philadelphia Ledger.

Milk Wrinkles the Face.
A writer on beauty in one of the society papers urges her readers never to wash the face with soap and water, as being certain destruction to a fine complexion. I cannot indorse this view.

Cleanliness is absolutely necessary to the beauty and delicacy of the texture of the skin. If soap is not liked, at least oatmeal should take its place, and pure or distilled water invariably be used. I once saw the result of only washing the face with milk in a lady who started life with a good complexion, but before she reached middle age had lost all freshness, and showed a faded skin covered with fine wrinkles. Nothing equals the com-

fact, the larger number of sales are for weapons of lesser cost. To give a faint idea of the cost of a wealthy sportsman's outing, here is a list of one who was going to take a party with him to his British Columbia camp, which is a very comfortable one, built of logs and completely furnished for the party, but did not, of course, provide arms for them. Here is a list of his purchases:

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------|
| Double-barreled shotgun |\$ 700 |
| Rifle | 100 |
| Reel | 45 |
| Two revolvers, at \$15 | 30 |
| Split bamboo fishing rod | 20 |
| Carpe | 50 |
| Three creels, at \$5 | 15 |
| 5,000 shells for shotgun | 150 |
| 2,000 rounds for rifle | 30 |
| 1,000 rounds for revolver | 30 |
| Angling flies | 100 |
| 1 dozen finest fishing lines | 24 |
| Wading pants | 12 |
| Leather coat | 15 |
| Weber shooting jacket | 6 |
| Two pairs of shoes, at \$10 | 20 |
| Corduroys | 15 |
| Hunting knife | 2 |
| Total |\$1,538 |

This list is not complete, for there were flasks and cups, and holsters and cartridge belts and numerous other trifles amounting to about \$25 more.

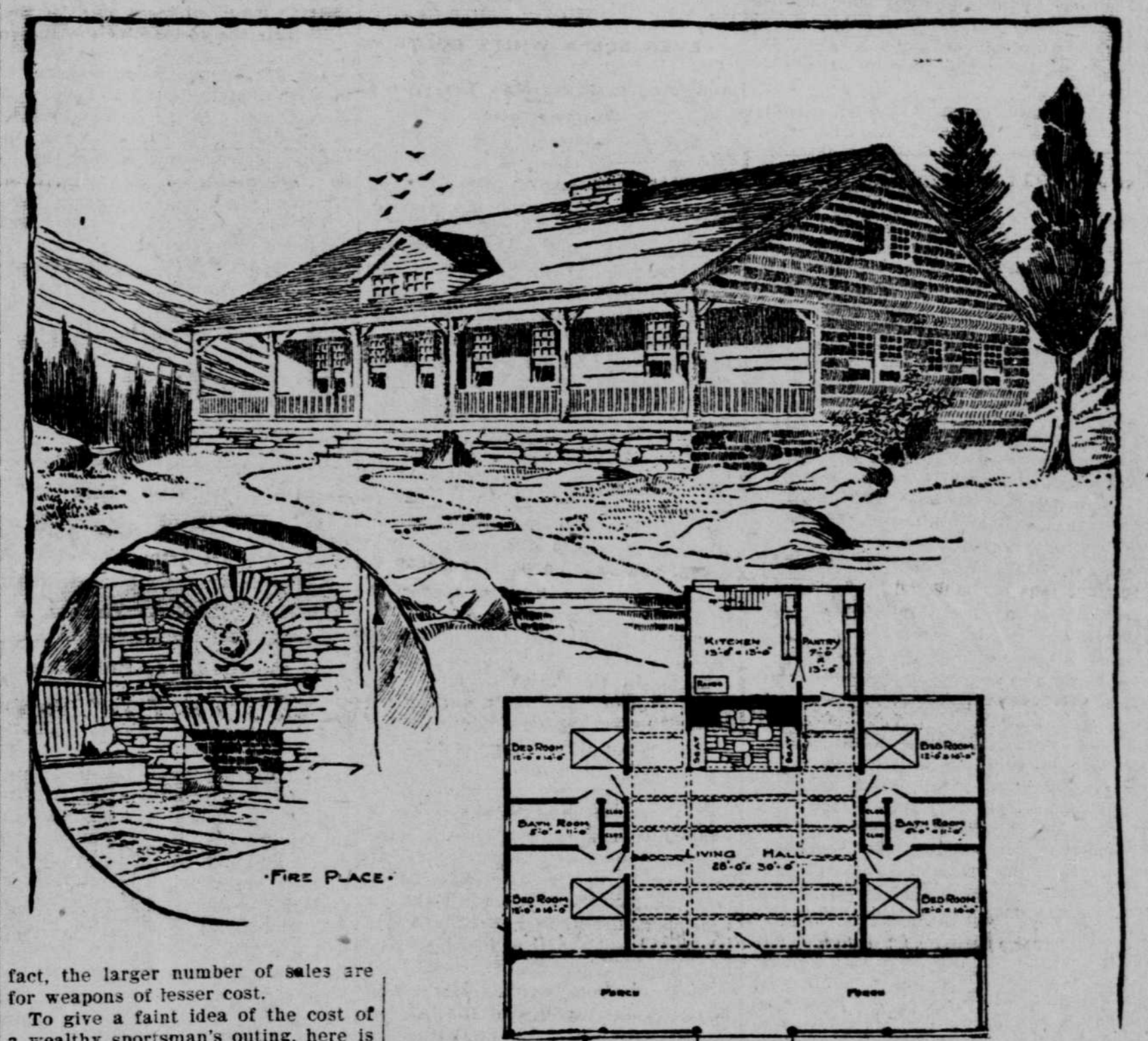
An inquiry was made as to the \$700 shotgun. What was it like? What could it be like?

The salesman remarked: "I might

does not by any means give an idea of the cost of his trip. There is the cost of provisions, enough for twice the stay intended, to be added; the cost of horses, the railroad transportation, the employment of guides and servants, two of whom went from the East with the party. The whole outing cost the sportsman about \$2,000 more.

Another sportsman took his outing in one of the wildest parts of Pennsylvania, where game was not so abundant as it is in British Columbia or in Arizona, and his trip did not take him quite so near to nature as the others. However, he has provided himself with an admirable bungalow, and if his month or two in the wilds is not filled with excitement of the hunt, it is at least spent comfortably in the haunts of nature.

His interesting rustic bungalow, which was designed by Charles E. Oelschlaeger, is a plain, substantial, and yet artistic, summer home. Its total cost did not exceed \$2,500. The base is constructed of large boulders taken from the mountain sides, and the walls above are built of large, rough-hewn oak logs, firmly mortised together at the corners, while the interstices are filled with mortar. The porch posts and railing were taken



plexion of the country woman who rises early, is much in the open air, and bathes freely in cold water. The homely idea of washing in the dew of the morning as an aid to beauty is simply a practical way of expressing this fact.—Lady Greville, in London Graphic.

Indians Remain in Canada.
Nova Scotia is behind in having neither exterminated nor debauched its Indian population. In this, almost the easternmost American land, you see the face of an Indian offender than you do in any western region except on the reservations. They seem more like peasants than wild people, but they keep most of their old wandering ways; they are guides, hunters, fishermen, and they live on the outskirts of the villages, as well as on a reserve on Bear river, and make moccasins, baskets, rustic furniture and other odds and ends.

When the French first came to Port Royal in 1604 they made all the Indians there Catholics. The French were driven out by the English, and their little town grew up to woods, but the Indians remained Catholics. The connection has helped them to keep distinct from the whites. Some of them are as dark as Apaches.

"Grill Room" for Railroad.
An innovation in passenger cars has been planned by the general passenger agent of a western road. It is a "Dutch grill room" on wheels. The interior woodwork of the car is to be of antique oak, with heavy crossbeams carrying wrought-iron lanterns. Red tile is to be used in the floor, and a large fireplace will afford a comfortable corner in which to while away a tedious car ride.

Queer Fellow of Memory.
The Italian novelist, Salvatore Farina, recently delivered an address before the society of Psychic Research at Milan, in which he minutely described the case of an author who, six years ago, completely lost his memory for language and names, while otherwise his mind was more active and wide-awake than ever before. At the expiration of that period the memory returned.

Tree Grew From Cane.
Twelve years ago John Nutt of Rockport, Me., had a willow stick which he used for a cane. He placed it in the center of a flower bed in the flowers to trail on. It soon took root, and to-day measures six feet six inches around the trunk.

Jilted Man's Revenge.
The jilted Philadelphia man who sent as a wedding present to his former sweetheart a miniature coffin full of old love letters, took a delicate means of demonstrating that his heart had not been broken.

THE ODD CORNER

"Dollie."
She sports a witching gown,
With a ruffe up and down,
On the skirt her feet
She is gentle, she is shy,
But there's mischief in her eye—
She's a flirt!

She displays a tiny glove,
And a dainty little shoe,
Of a shoe,
And she wears her hat a tilt
Over bangs that never wilt
In the dew.

'Tis rumored chocolate creams
Are the fabric of her dreams,
But she carries them about
I know beyond a doubt
That she carries them about
In her muff.

With her dimples and her curls
She excites the girls
Past belief,
They hint that she's a cat,
And delectable things like that,
In their grief.

It is shocking, I declare!
But what does Dollie care,
Come flocking to her feet
Like the bees around the sweet
Little rose!

Moscow's Barbaric Splendor.
No one, so far as we know, has presented to the mind of the distant reader a more vivid picture of the barbaric splendors of Moscow than Arthur Symons gives in this passage from his book about European cities: "Colors shriek and flame; the Muscovite eye sees only by emphasis and by contrast; red is completed either by another red or by bright blue. There are no shades, no reticences, no modulations. The restaurants are filled with the din of vast mechanical organs, with drums and cymbals; a great bell clashes against a chain on all the trams, to clear the road; the music which one hears is a ferocity of brass. The masons who build the houses build in top-boots, red shirts and pink trousers; the houses are painted red or green or blue; the churches are like the temples of average idols, tortured into every unnatural shape and colored every glaring color"

His Shaving Mug in a Tree.
The Webb City correspondent sends this "belated but interesting item" regarding a storm which took place near Neck City a few days ago: "J. N. Scott was not at home on the night of the storm last week, having gone to a neighbor's, some little distance away, and being prevailed upon to stay all night on account of the threatening weather. When he arrived at what should have been his home next morning he found that his new two-room house had disappeared, not a trace of it was visible anywhere in the vicinity.

His shaving mug and brush, which were in the house at the time of the storm, have been found in a tree two miles away. This leads Mr. Scott to believe that if he had been in the house at the time he would have had a long and perilous trip."—Kansas City Journal.

Sorry She Hatched Quail.
John Yeakel, residing near Limeport, Pa., on July 2 accidentally killed a sitting quail in his meadow. A bantam hen which just then was looking for something to hatch was placed on the eggs. About a week or so ago six young quails appeared, and the bantam is having a lively time with them.

The manages to keep them at home pretty thoroughly, unless they are disturbed, when they hide so quickly and effectively that their foster mother has a great time finding them again.

Big Rattlesnake Killed.
One of the largest rattlesnakes found in Georgia for several years was killed on Cumberland Island July 25 by Miss Naomi Neill of Macon, a guest on the island, and W. T. Johnston, cashier of the Hotel Cumberland. The snake measured 7 feet and 3 inches in length, weighed 13½ pounds, measured 16 inches in circumference, and had twelve rattles and a button. It was killed in the woods about half way between the hotel and the dock landing.—Atlanta (Ga.) Constitution.

New Swindling Game.
A Connecticut man answered an advertisement the other day from which he expected to get rich. This is the bait that was hung out: "Save gas bills—the most wonderful invention of the twentieth century; over 15,000 sold last year; agents wanted; price, 25 cents. Address, etc." The Connecticut gudgeon sent on his quarter, received a nicely decorated book and with it this line of instruction: "Hang your gas bills on it and then you will save them."

Quite Impossible.
A woman of newly acquired wealth went into an art gallery the other day and said she wanted a painting of a certain size.
"I have just what you want," the dealer assured her, as she showed her a genuine Troyon of the size desired—a beautiful animal painting.
The woman looked at it for a few minutes and shook her head.
"It won't do," she said; "I want this picture for my drawing room."
"Well?" questioned the dealer, who saw no reason for the rejection so far as the drawing room was concerned.
"You couldn't have a cow in the drawing room, you know."
And that ended it.—Louisville Herald.