

large plate glass windows in said store occupied by the plaintiff were blown in and broken by said wind, deflected as aforesaid, on Sunday, November 23, 1902, and again on Friday, December 5, 1902."

COMMENTING ON THIS PECULIAR SUIT, the attorney for the owners of the building says: "We have received a complaint from Mr. Vincent's counsel. We refused to pay for the damage, declaring we could not admit any such liability. The owners of the 'Flatiron' cannot control the wind, and certainly are not responsible for its pranks. Owners certainly have a right to build on their own property, and there is no limit to the height they may see fit to go. The windows in Mr. Vincent's store, perhaps, were not firmly set." Mr. Vincent's attorney expects to produce the testimony of other tenants in the block, and also that of policemen who, he says, have seen persons blown down at this corner.

THE AUTHORITIES OF MICHIGAN, confronted with the sparrow problem, provided a bounty of 2 cents per sparrow. A resident of Carson City, Louis Gorsline by name, devised a method for capturing the outlawed bird. Gorsline soaked wheat and millet seed with a preparation of his own and this preparation completely disabled the bird and it fell into the Gorsline trap. It is said that so far more than \$14,000 have been paid to Mr. Gorsline and now the authorities of Michigan are turning their attention from the problem of the sparrow to the problem of Gorsline.

THE ANNUAL REPORT OF THE COMMISSIONER of Indian affairs shows that up to 1890 the United States government had expended \$845,000,000 in controlling the Indians and \$240,000,000 additional for the education and care of Indian children.

SAGASTA, THE GRAND OLD MAN OF SPAIN, is to retire from public life. He is now seventy-five years of age and his retirement is due to illness. The Madrid correspondent of the Chicago Record-Herald, referring to Sagasta, says: "History will say of him that no other Spaniard did so much for modern Spain. Liberalism will suffer heavily from Sagasta's retirement when it is an accomplished fact. The party, although in power, has been deteriorating rapidly. It is split into three or four groups. The most compact is headed by Senor Moret, whom Sagasta regards as his national successor. As matters stand, one of these groups will not follow Moret in his Catalonian program, while the third suspects him of a plan to carry Spain into the Franco-Russian alliance. Moret, however, is incomparably the strongest man in the liberal ranks after Sagasta, and liberal ascendancy can scarcely be maintained unless under his leadership. He is the only liberal whose debating skill can cope with the leaders of the conservative groups, particularly Silvela, who has been charged by the king to form a conservative cabinet."

MANY FORMS OF INSURANCE UNKNOWN to our own country prevail in England. Perhaps the most novel form is that undertaken by an English company which takes risks upon the skill of surgeons. Commenting upon this plan of insurance, a writer in Harper's Weekly says: "It would seem as if the time was near when societies for insurance against specialists might be profitably organized in the larger American cities. The specialist has come to be a very important—indeed, an indispensable—institution, especially to families in which there are children. The office of the family doctor has now become simplified to the task of coming in and telling the patient which specialist to go to. It is not that specialists charge too much, for their honorable services are above price. It is that landlord, butcher, baker, grocer, milkman, coalman, dentist and trained nurse do not leave you money enough to pay them appropriately. To subscribe a considerable sum annually and have all the repairs and desirable improvements made in one's family without further disbursement would be a comparatively simple way out of a troublesome predicament."

THE REMAINS OF CHRISTOPHER COLUMBUS were recently placed in the Cathedral at Seville. Referring to this fact, the Seville correspondent of the Chicago Chronicle says: "It is especially appropriate that Christopher Columbus should lie in Seville cathedral, it being the last resting place of Ferdinand III, of Castile, who sent the discoverer forth to sail to India, and the Italian's son also named Ferdinand. This is

the sixth time that the body of Columbus has been buried. He died at Valladolid, in Spain, and his remains found a resting place there. In 1513 they were dug up again and carried off to Santo Domingo, in Cuba, and once more committed to the earth. The year 1796 saw them disinterred again, to be placed in the cathedral at Havana, and 100 years later they were exhumed once more and brought back to Spain."

THERE ARE NOW ON EXHIBITION IN LONDON, according to Public Opinion, 157 volumes described by the owner, Mr. Wilfred Voynich, as "lost and unknown books." Public Opinion says: "Of course it is not easy to affirm that any book once published is really unknown or positively lost. Yet some books once known or believed to have existed have so utterly disappeared that the most patient search has been unable to discover them. The special feature of Mr. Voynich's collection is that so far as he has been able to learn no other copies of these 157 volumes exist." It will occur to a great many people that the fact that 157 books have been lost is not nearly so strange as the fact that several thousand other books that have been palmed off upon the public have not entirely disappeared from sight. Doubtless it may be true that the books in Mr. Voynich's possession were well worth the saving, but it would be well if the list of lost and unknown books could be largely increased.

A WRITER IN THE LONDON LANCET ADVANCES an interesting explanation for the prevalence of the malady known as appendicitis. This writer attributes this disease largely to the widespread use of glass ware on our tables. He suggests that water may have an imperceptible dissolving effect on the glass and the absorption of these minute particles by the vermiform appendix leads to inflammation.

THE POSTMASTER GENERAL RECENTLY issued an order that women clerks that married must report the fact to their department and that in the future they would not be reappointed. December 1 was the date fixed for this order to go into effect and before that time there was a hurry and skurry on the part of the women clerks to retain their positions while at the same time enjoying the inalienable right of marriage. It is said that on the day after this order had been issued nine women clerks were married and that every day since then up to December 1 ten or twelve women took advantage of the opportunity.

IT IS RELATED THAT PRIOR TO THE DELIVERY of his annual message, Mr. Roosevelt called Senators Hoar, Hanna, and Platt of Connecticut into his consultation room. The subject of trusts was under consideration. Senator Hoar advised the president to wait. Senator Platt said: "We should go no further now." Senator Hanna said: "Trust legislation of any sort is likely to work as much harm to the business interests of the country as the tariff legislation would." The Chicago Record-Herald, a republican paper, refers to the attitude of these senators as "senatorial conservatism toward trusts." The Record-Herald says: "This is the kind of statesmanship that is sometimes described as a wise conservatism because it has reached the profound conviction that in a time of apparent prosperity you cannot make a change of any sort that will not be fatal. Everything bad and good is a beneficent cause of the existing conditions, which, according to this line of reasoning, may be attributed with equal plausibility to a balloon ascension, an earthquake or to any fact or statute that preceded the time under consideration. But while so much appears from each of the senatorial chunks of wisdom the offering of Senator Hanna is undoubtedly the most illuminating of the three. For it shows how closely allied the sympathy for an excessive tariff is with a sympathy for trusts. Mr. Hanna deserves this credit—that he is frank enough not to attempt to discriminate between something that is intensely unpopular everywhere and something that has at least a sectional support. But the value of his tariff opinion may be judged by his trust opinion, and it is fair to assume that if others believe that the tariff has nothing to do with the trusts he does not. In his eyes they are both desirable institutions and mutually helpful."

AN INTERESTING STATEMENT RELATING to the cost of living is contributed to the Chicago Record-Herald. W. A. Croffut of Washington, D. C., in an article written in the Rec-

ord-Herald, said that a man could support his family for \$6 a week and that not since the revolution have food and general merchandise been as cheap as in the last ten years. Emily A. Bruner of Cedar Rapids, Ia., takes issue with Mr. Croffut and presents an abstract from an old account book dated from 1837 to 1844 and prepared at Columbus, O., as follows: 1837—20 lbs. pork, \$2.50; 6 tea plates, 25c; 1 peck potatoes, 6c; 1 peck apples, 6c; 1 pair suspenders, 13c; 8 eggs, 5c; 1 bonnet, \$1.50. 1839—6 candles, 13c; 6 lbs. green coffee, \$1; 1 ounce camphor, 13c; 1½ lbs. woolen yarn, 50c; 3 lb. sausage, 20c; 20 lbs. buckwheat flour, 20c; 2 lbs. raisins, 25c; 1 barrel apples, \$1.50; 1 cord wood, \$1.38; 8 doz. eggs, 50c; 5 lbs. veal, 25c; 1½ lbs. butter, 14c; 4 lbs. beef, 25c; 5 lbs. pork, 38c; 9½ lbs. ham, \$1.06; 1 pair boots, \$1.75; 1 turkey, 38c; 2 chickens, 25c. 1840—2—16½ lbs. lard, \$1.15; 10 lbs. pork, 70c; 3 chickens, 25c; half bu. cornmeal, 15c. 1844—5 qts. blue plums, 25c; half bu. peaches, 10c; 1 peck beans, 25c; 1 chicken, 8c. This writer adds: "I have given an item here and there out of many. I also find on June 1, 1832, an account of a suit of broadcloth, clothing trimmings and making, for \$21. In those days clothing was made for wear; now it is made for money making. Compare these prices with the present ones and no further argument is needed."

A CHARMING STORY RELATING TO MRS. Roosevelt is told by Harold Mahin in a Washington letter to the Muscatine Journal. Mr. Mahin says: "After a number of distinguished guests had been received by Mrs. Roosevelt, a woman, beautifully gowned and conducting herself with an air of distinction, was presented. After the usual formalities the lady passed on to join a group of ladies whose husbands were in the same circle as her own. A frigid nod from one and a haughty reply from the other made it all too plain that she was unwelcome, for some one had recognized her as a former saleswoman in a large store in New York, an establishment where prior to her father's death she had been one of the most valued and esteemable patrons. With consummate grace she withdrew from the circle and was about to leave the parlor when Mrs. Roosevelt, with her characteristic tact and discernment, stepped to her side and extended her hand and said: 'I think we hardly need to be introduced as we are such old friends. I am so glad to meet you here,' and placing her arm around the young woman who had so often supplied her wants at the New York store, Mrs. Roosevelt led her to a sofa and chatted with her for fifteen or twenty minutes in the charming manner which is inherent in the wife of the president of the United States and which has endeared her to the people of the country."

PERHAPS NO VERSE IS MORE FAMILIAR to the children of the long ago or to the children of today than "Little drops of water, little grains of sand, make the mighty ocean and the pleasant land." This little poem has been credited to Mrs. Frances S. Osgood, but the Critic claims that the real author is Mrs. Julia A. Carney who now lives at Galesburg, Ill. The Critic says that Mrs. Carney wrote this poem more than fifty years ago when she was little more than twenty years of age.

REPORTS RECENTLY MADE TO THE WAR department by David P. Barrows, chief of the bureau of non-Christian tribes in the Philippines, says that while the majority of the Philippine population is of Malayan origin the aboriginal race of the archipelago is the dwarf negroes. According to Mr. Barrows, some of these people average four feet in height, but the larger number are under three feet and inquiry shows that there are 30,000 of these dwarfs in "our new possessions."

A CABLEGRAM UNDER DATE OF ST. Petersburg, January 10, and sent by a correspondent of the Chicago Chronicle, provides this interesting information: "One of the best governed communities in the Russian empire, the interior minister reports, is that of Nikolskoye, in the district of Rybinsk. The men of the place are all employed in the factories of large cities or in business in Moscow and St. Petersburg. The women run the affairs of the community, meet in council, elect officials and, according to the interior minister, do it splendidly. Other communities managed by women are conducted in a satisfactory manner, but they do not come up to the Nikolskoye standard."