

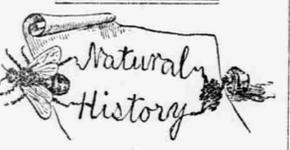
A PRAYER.

Not ease! I would not stoop so low to ask
That this dull pain grow ever less and
less,
Until the hardship of my daily task
No longer on my crippled life should
press.
Not death! I would not leave, with cow-
ard feet,
The battlefield where He so bravely
fought.
Could I His tender eyes once dare to
meet,
If that first rapture were too dearly
bought?
Nor do I pray that I may soon forget
In some new joy the anguish of the old.
Better drink deep of memory and regret,
Than taste the draught that Lethe's cup
may hold.
But strength I ask to bear the standard
high
He carried proudly and with faithful
care,
That, when the day shall come for me to
die,
It still may be, as now, unstained and
fair.
And grant me sympathy with others' pain,
That so my own may serve its purpose
best;
Nor seek to shift its heavy load again,
Since thus I learn the need of all the
rest.
And faith to feel that He is with me still,
Through stress of storm and wastes of
weary way,
Guiding me ever by His wiser will
Up to the hilltop of some clearer day.
—Boston Transcript.

CUPID IN THE COUNTRY.

IT seemed a little lonely at first—
my new home in the country—
although scarcely an hour from
the city. Upon the whole, I was glad
I had secured so desirable a place at
an unobtainable bargain.
"Jones," quoth I to my factotum,
who had been recommended to me as
"handy to have on a farm," "who owns
that property next door?"
"Don't know nothing about it, sir,"
Jones answered.
I left him and strolled down to look
at my neighbor's fernery through the
thread-like wire fence.
To my surprise I perceived that the
fernery was not unoccupied this golden
July morning. A young lady was
there working diligently with a little
rosewood handle trowel, while the
bright hair which fell beneath her
straw gypsy only half revealed a fresh
face lighted up with roses.
I had come so directly upon her that
there was no retreating unless I were
to turn and fly.
So I stood my ground bravely and
said "Good morning."
"Good morning," the rural beauty an-
swered, with a root of adiantum in her
hand. "I suppose you are my new
neighbor, Mr. Raymond?"
"I have that honor," I said, bowing
politely. "Your father has a fine place
here."
"I have no father," answered this
spirit of the ferns.
"I beg your pardon," I corrected my-
self. "I should have said your hus-
band."
"Not if you have any regard to the
strict truth," she answered, with a sort
of demure enjoyment of my perplex-
ity. "I never had either brother or
sister. Now don't guess any more and
I will introduce myself. I am the
owner of this place, and my name is
Bertha Wilson."
I started a little. "Bertha Wilson?"
This, then, was the beautiful fiancée of
Richmond Kent, the wealthy Broad
street broker, of whose eccentricity and
talent I had heard so much. Truly,
Kent had chosen well.
We went together over the fairy do-
mains; we investigated the conserva-
tories, tested the gold and purple con-
tents of the grapevines, and looked at
the rose gardens. The house itself was
a mere little bungalow, all verandas
and awnings and cool glimpses of but-
terfly gauze curtains and cream-
colored matting, but the grounds were
like a chapter out of "The Arabian
Nights."
"Who suggested all this to you, Miss
Wilson?" I asked.
"Who should suggest it to me?" she
asked, elevating her beautiful brows.
"Why, myself, of course."
What a lucky dog Richmond Kent
was, to be sure!
"If you will come over to-morrow,
and are not afraid of mosquitoes and
sunburn," said Miss Wilson, "I will
take you down the river to my lily
plantation."
Was I in love with Bertha Wilson
now? Yes, but she should never know
it! And the summer glided on like the
pauses of an unwritten idyll, and my
lovely neighbor filled up my whole life
with her wondrous grace and beauty,
and all the while neither of us spoke
of Richmond.
It was a sultry September afternoon
when I met him on Broad street. The
city seemed hotter, dustier, and more
intolerable than ever.
"Hallo, Raymond! Why, where have
you been hiding all this time?"
"Gent, old fellow!" and we shook
hands in genuine American fashion.
"So you've been turning ornamental
farmer, have you? Well, I never had
any great fancy for that style of life.
Upon my word, you've grown as brown
as a berry. Make any stay in town?"
"No, I go back to-night."
"Sorry, I should have liked to have
you at our house to dinner this even-
ing; got a cook who is great on ortolans
and mock-turtle soup, and there's an
article of dry champagne I can really
depend upon. Besides, I should have
liked to introduce you to Mrs. Kent."
"Your mother?"
"No, my wife."
I stared wildly at him, I'm afraid.

"Married last month. An English
girl without a particle of nonsense
about her. You would like her, I know,
Raymond," and his face beamed as he
looked at me.
"But—Bertha Wilson?"
"Oh, Bertha Wilson!" He looked a
little discomfited. "That's an old af-
fair. She was a splendid girl, a regular
princess, but we were never suited
to each other."
"The engagement is at an end, then?"
I asked, with a breathless, choking
feeling in my throat.
"Certainly, or I shouldn't have mar-
ried Maria Blossom. I really do wish
you could see her, old fellow!"
I went home as lightly as if I were
treading on air and surprised Bertha
sitting by one of the muslin-draped
windows, her chin in her hand and the
down-falling hair veiling her face just
as when I had first looked upon her.
"Bertha?"
She started, and there were tears on
her cheeks, in the mellow glow of the
full harvest moon.
"Bertha, you have been crying?"
She tried to smile. "I—I believe I
have been a little low-spirited. I think
I need a change of scene. Indeed, I
have concluded to accept my cousin's
invitation to go to Switzerland with
her."
"Not unless I am to go, too, Bertha!"
I knelt by her side, possessing my-
self resolutely of one slender hand, and
told her, frankly and simply, how much
I loved her, and what considerations of
honor and honesty toward Richmond
Kent had sealed my lips so long.
Her hand trembled in my grasp.
"I thought once," she murmured,
"that a solitary and self-contained life
would satisfy me. I think so no longer.
You have taught me, dear Robert, how
necessary one human being may be to
another's happiness."
And the lesson has been gathering
new beauty and gladness for us both
from that day to this!—New York
Evening World.



A bat avoids wires and obstructions
as easily as if it could see perfectly.
Russia supports more horses than
any other country. By the last census
there were 21,000,000.
For the hide of a full-grown giraffe,
greatly sought after in Africa for whip
and sandal making, the native hunters
get from \$15 to \$25.
An elephant eighty years of age is to
be added to the Berlin Zoological Gar-
dens. It came from India, where for
many years it was the public execution-
er.
A few persons in England raise large
numbers of guinea pigs for exportation
to France, where they are highly es-
teemed for the table, the flavor of the
meat being identical with that of the
rabbit.
Cats can smell even during sleep. If
a piece of meat be placed immediately
in front of a sleeping cat's nose, the
nostrils will begin to work as the scent
is received, and an instant later the cat
will wake up.
American salmon trout have made
their appearance in the River Spree, at
Berlin, probably having escaped from the
fisheries exhibition. As they are
believed to live in clean water only,
people of Berlin are in doubt as to
whether their eyes deceive them when
they look at their river or whether the
trout has changed its habits.
For ten years every military com-
pany in Germany has included its pack
of dogs, which are in charge of a petty
officer, who is excused from all duties
in the afternoon that he may train the
animals for their work. The short-
haired German pointer, poodle, and
shepherd dogs are employed, and they
are taught to carry messages, or am-
munition, hunt up the dead, and give
signals.
Astute Professor Blackie.
The London Chronicle tells a story of
Professor Blackie's election to the
chair of Greek in Edinburgh. The pro-
fessorship was in the gift of the Town
Council, and one of the Councilors was
the principal of the veterinary college
in the city. He, like most of the elect-
ors, knew no Greek, but, unlike his col-
leagues, he possessed a solitary Greek
book, some medical treatise in an edi-
tion of the sixteenth or seventeenth
century, nicely peppered with contrac-
tions. This volume he presented to all
who called to solicit his vote, and re-
quested them to translate a portion.
Most of the candidates declined to be
examined. Dr. W. Smith (afterward
Sir Smith) rashly made the attempt,
but failed to unravel the contractions,
and came to a standstill. Blackie was
more adroit. Guessing the qualifica-
tions of his examiner at their true rate,
he gave a most fluent translation, en-
tirely the offspring of his imagination,
and won the principal's vote.
Mendelssohn's Compliment.
While still a young man, Gounod
went to Leipzig and played some of his
music before Mendelssohn, to whom he
had been introduced by the sister of
the maestro. He was sitting at the
piano, executing one of his masses,
when Mendelssohn suddenly arose and
interrupted him. "Was that composed
by you, young man?" he asked.
"Yes, my dear master," was the re-
ply.
"Astounding! Why, Cherubini could
not have done better!"
At the time, Cherubini was an un-
contested authority. The compliment
was, therefore, all the more precious.
The automatic weighing machine
gives pounds in return for pennies

SEEN BY A CANUCK.

A Visitor from Canada Writes of the House of Representatives.
To the visitor in the House of Rep-
resentatives who has been accustomed
to the severe discipline and strict de-
corum of British legislatures the degree
of liberty indulged in by the members
seems somewhat strange. There is a
constant moving about on the floor, the
frequent formation of groups of mem-
bers for consultation and, what would
doubtless be regarded as treason by the
attendants in the gallery of the mother
of parliaments, applause from the
spectators at times. The American
politician is often accused of over-
vehemence and a disposition to shout
when ordinary tones would better
serve the purpose. After an hour in
the big chamber of the popular house,
with its continual din, one can well un-
derstand that the member of Congress
comes naturally by his strident tones
and strenuous manner. Without them
he would never be heard by his chat-
tering colleagues, and to the galleries
he would speak only by gesticulation.
The official reporters suffer greatly
from the noise. Instead of sitting at
their desks in front of the Speaker's
chair, they find it necessary to skip
about to whatever section of the house
a speaker may be in, dropping into a
vacant seat if convenient, but more fre-
quently leaning against a desk, pad in
hand. Unhappy indeed is that mortal
in the middle of whose "take" there is
a change of speakers. He may have
crept close up to "the member from
Michigan" on the extreme left of the
huge semicircle in which the seats are
arranged, and may have to make a run
like a base-ball player for his home
base to the other side to catch the open-
ing remarks of "the member from Ar-
kansas" as he rises to interpose an ob-
jection.
It sometimes happens that members
lose their tempers in the heat of debate.
The bowie knife and the revolver, con-
trary to the belief of many of our kin-
men across the seas, are no longer the
weapons with which these quarrels are
settled. They have been replaced by
the statutes in calf and the inkstand,
which are much more convenient and
less deadly. When a row breaks out
on the floor and the combatants come
to close quarters, it is the duty of the
sergeant-at-arms to interpose the mace
between them. The mace is the em-
blem of the civil power, but it is some-
what different in appearance from ours.
It consists of a bundle of ebony rods
bound together with ligaments of sil-
ver and having on top a silver globe
surmounted by a silver eagle. It re-
sembles the fasces borne by the lictors
before the Roman magistrates. It is
known familiarly as "the bird." Just
before the declaration of war with
Spain "the bird" did duty in quelling
a row. An excited member had en-
forced his remarks by throwing the
law in a concrete form at his oppo-
nent's head. The latter made a rush at
his antagonist, mutual friends held
them back, while from all sides of the
house came the cry, "Sergeant, bring
the bird!" The bird was sent forward
to the fighting line as rapidly as pos-
sible and hostilities ceased. The man
who would dare to strike a blow over
"the bird" has not yet entered Con-
gress.—Toronto Globe.

WHY THE DOCTOR LEFT.
**Royal Patient Takes Forty-six Cidlitz
Powders in Succession.**
An English doctor attached to the
court of a rajah made himself almost
indispensable to his neighbors. He
had, fortunately, also made a friend
of his prime minister. On one occa-
sion his highness, being slightly indis-
posed, had taken, by the doctor's ad-
vice, a cidlitz powder, with which he
expressed himself delighted. Its ten-
dency to "holl and fizz ready to blow
your nose off" seemed to him to "scat-
ter coolness," and he seemed so much
better after taking it that the doctor
felt himself justified in joining in a
hunting party.
Presently a horseman from the palace,
in the confidential employment of the
grand vizier, galloped up to him.
"My master bids me tell you," he
said, "that his highness has broken open
your medicine chest and taken, first,
all the white powders and then all the
blue."
"Gracious heavens!" cried the doc-
tor. "There were twenty-three of each
of them."
"My master adds," continued the
messenger, "that you had better make
for the frontier without one moment's
delay."
The doctor put spurs to his horse and
never drew rein till he was "out of the
jurisdiction of the court."—Tid-Bits.

How He Made Her Hold Her Tongue.
The late Sir William Jenner is cred-
ited with having enjoyed the largest
professional income of any physician in
Great Britain in his generation, his
practice having brought him \$75,000 a
year for several years before he retired.
The London newspapers teem with an-
ecdotes concerning him. One of these
has been told of other physicians, but it
probably originated with Sir William,
who had a holy horror of tittle-tattle.
One of his lady patients would cheer-
fully pay her fee just to have the op-
portunity of gossiping with him. Her
first words would be: "Have you
heard?" and Jenner would break in:
"No; I have not. Please to put this
thermometer in your mouth, that I may
take your temperature." And he kept
the tube between her lips for ten min-
utes, so that only five minutes were left
for the lady to indulge in chatter.

Hannah More's Wedding Day.
The celibacy of Hannah Moore, the
English writer, which gave her so
much time to bend the powers of her
mind to the interests of humanity, has
always been a subject of surprise and
discussion. A writer relates this cir-

cumstance: "She was early engaged
to be married to a gentleman of family
and fortune. The wedding day was
fixed. The bride and her party moved
off gayly to the church where the cere-
mony was to be performed, only to find
that the lover was not there. The lag-
gard comes late," thought the attend-
ants. They miscalculated; he came not
at all. A horseman rode up to the
church door and handed a letter to Miss
More. With melancholy apologies the
faithless swain told her that he could
not 'take the responsibility' of making
her his bride. At the same time he
offered any pecuniary remuneration in
his power.
"Whether the lady fainted or only
pouted is not mentioned, but her rela-
tives followed the business up with
such promptness and spirit that the
'dastard in love' made a settlement
upon the slighted lady for four hun-
dred pounds sterling a year for life."

ALL ABORIGINAL TRIBES LAZY.
**Hence They Shun Exertion Beyond
Actual Requirements.**
Inhabitants of the polar regions have
an inordinate appetite, measured from
our dietary standpoint, for fat and
oleaginous fish, against which the
stomach of a denizen of the warmer
zones would revolt. But the frozen fat
of the animals of the far north is as
sweet and palatable to a resident of
that region as is the yam or the fruit
of the plantation to an inhabitant of
the tropics. Both kinds of food per-
form the required function in their
respective climatic zones. One furnishes
the maximum degree of heat to the
body where it is needed, the other the
minimum degree of animal heat to sus-
tain life under its special climatic con-
ditions.
The popular notion prevails that the
climate and foods of the tropics are
conducive to indolence and human de-
generacy. It is quite as much of a
popular error as is the other popular
theory that fish is food for the brain
and thus conducive to a greater mental
development and activity. If the latter
were true of fish diet the Siwash and
other aboriginal tribes of the northern
coast of this continent would be the
most intellectual representatives of the
human race in existence. As it is they
constitute one of the lowest types of
the race, the black of the Australian
bush and the Digger Indian of Califor-
nia only being inferior to them in the
scale of human development.
As a matter of fact, the activity of
man is determined by other factors in
his existence than either food or cli-
mate. All aboriginal tribes are content
to exist. The energies of mind and
body are not exerted by them beyond
the actual necessities of an existence.
The Esquimaux of the frigid north and
the Indians of the temperate zone are
quite as indolent as the aborigines of
the tropics, having no desire or ambi-
tion to acquire more than the bare nec-
essaries of life or to rise above the
normal condition of their environment.
—San Francisco Chronicle.

Superstition at Fault.
Notwithstanding the superstition of
railroad engineers the most useful, suc-
cessful and satisfactory locomotive on
the Baltimore and Ohio system is No.
1313. It is one of their ten-wheel lo-
comotives with seventy-eight-inch driv-
ers, built under contract by the Bald-
win company, and is not only the best
of the lot, but the best on the road for
running record and for repairs. It has
been constantly in service for nearly
nine years, has never had an accident
to itself or to any car it has hauled, has
been late less times than any other en-
gine in use by the company, and has
cost almost nothing for repairs. Whole
years have passed without having to
send this engine to the repair shop, al-
though the other nine engines which
were built at the same time by the
same man and from the same material
are laid up frequently.

Peculiar Ceremony of the Chinese.
The exhumation of the bodies of Car
Poy and Ah Ben, two Chinese who
died at Baroga, New South Wales,
about ten years ago, has taken place,
by the authority of the colonial secre-
tary. Two Chinese came from Denli
quin for the purpose. Proceedings
commenced by placing lighted tapers
and a baked fowl and other food on
the graves, with a bowl of whisky, into
which the Chinese dipped with small
cups and drank as they regaled them-
selves with the food. Each skeleton
was taken up, and the bones carefully
scraped and separately sewn up in
calico and labeled with the names of
deceased for deportation to China.

Visitors to Great City
Paris in 1897 was visited by 800,000
visitors, Berlin by 617,000 and Vienna
by 364,000. Thirteen years ago the fig-
ures for the three cities were: Paris,
684,000; Berlin, 268,000, and Vienna,
184,000, the relatively larger increase
in the last probably having something
to do with the freedom from Dreyfus
affairs and less majesty. In thirteen
years Paris hotels have entertained 8-
500,000 guests, those of Berlin 4,500,000
and those of Vienna 3,000,000. It
would be difficult to obtain accurate
figures for New York and London, owing
to the lack of police supervision of
hotel registers.

Two Famous Scotch Cripples.
Two of the most famous living
Scotchmen are cripples—Lord Kelvin,
who is the greatest living Scottish
scientist, and Dr. James Macgregor of
Edinburgh, who is said to be the great-
est living Scottish preacher.

The more gracefully a woman allows
herself to be deceived, the easier it be-
comes for her husband to be a satisfac-
tory one.
It's pretty tough when the "roll of
honor" consists of butterless dry
bread.

COST OF STOPPING A TRAIN.

**Guesses as to the Actual Expense Are
Mostly Too Large.**
The use of tanks along the track of a
railroad to enable a locomotive to take
water without stopping was resorted to,
in the first place, in order to shorten
the time of running, and for the pas-
senger traffic only. The gain is so
slight, however, that some lines are
now abandoning the system.
Another advantage is gained, though,
by the avoidance of unnecessary stops.
It costs money to bring a train to a
standstill and then to get it under full
headway once more. The application
of brakes wears both the car wheels and
the brakes. After a certain amount of
use, of course, a renewal is necessary,
and this costs something. Moreover,
as every one knows, it requires much
less power to keep a train in motion
than to start it. Power means fuel, and
fuel means shooks.
An amusing variety of guesses have
been made of the exact cost of stopping
trains. A sensation was created a few
years ago by the statement by an ex-
pert that a stop without letting off a
passenger or taking one on involved an
expense of from \$1.28 to \$1.70. This
proved to be a ridiculously extravagant
estimate. The Baltimore Gazette re-
cently quoted two more accurate and
modern calculations. One manager be-
lieves that it costs 18 cents to stop a
train. Another makes the expense 48
cents for passenger trains and 70 or 80
for freight trains.
The Railroad Gazette remarks that,
aside from the actual cost from wear
and tear and extra fuel consumption,
one should take account of the danger
of breakage to couplers, drawbars, and
their fastenings which results from
stopping long and heavy freights. But
when a road is crowded the saving of
time is important in freight as well as
passenger traffic. The New Haven road
finds this to be the case, and it is said
that the same consideration has led the
New York Central to fit up some of its
freight locomotives with apparatus for
scooping water up from tanks.
On a division of a Western road, 123
miles long, some tests were made last
year with freight trains weighing 1,080
tons, exclusive of engine, tender, and
caboose. The average time consumed
when fourteen stops were made was
eight hours and thirty-five minutes.
Without stops, the time was seven
hours and twelve minutes. To haul one
car a mile, on an average, 3.2 pounds of
coal were burned in the former case,
and only 3 in the latter.—New York
Tribune.

A Connecticut valley grower claims
to have demonstrated that as fine to-
bacco can be grown in that section as
anywhere in the world, and that he has
produced cigars from it equal in flavor
to the genuine Vuelta.
The postmaster of Pembroke,
Me., is said to have been held by one
family longer than that of any other
town in the country. William Kilby
was appointed to the office in 1800, and
his direct descendants have handled
the mails of the little village ever since
his retirement in 1840.
Massachusetts will hereafter kill her
condemned murderers with electricity.
The murderer will not know the time
at which he is to die and no press re-
ports of the execution will be avail-
able. Should there be any carelessness
or bungling the people will not learn of
it through the newspapers.
Lord Mount Stephen, the Canadian
millionaire, who now lives in England,
has handed over the sum of \$2,800,000
to three trustees, to be employed for
the benefit of relatives and friends,
both in England and Canada. His lead-
ing idea is that they shall reap the ben-
efit while they are still young and able
to enjoy the good things of the world.
France has now a law by which
marriage may be dissolved without
cost to the applicants. The Paris di-
vorce court devotes Thursdays to gra-
tuitous decrees. On one day recently
294 couples were divorced during a ses-
sion of four hours, an average of more
than one divorce a minute. The ap-
licants belonged to the working class, in
which divorces were infrequent before
the passage of the new law.
A prize of \$1,000 offered by a New
York newspaper at the beginning of
1898 for the most correct prophecies of
what would happen during the ensuing
year was taken by a man who said
there would be a successful war with
Spain, a Republican governor elected
in New York, and a bill passed to annex
Hawaii. But he also predicted the ab-
dication of Queen Victoria, the death
of the Pope and a war between Russia
and Japan.
The recent protest of J. Sterling Mor-
ton of Nebraska against the cutting of
Christmas trees is warmly commended
in the West. In his protest he said:
"The trees selected for slaughter on
this anniversary are always the straight-
est and most symmetrical. There were
last year more than 20,000,000 of
Christmas trees cut down and put
on the market. The absurdity of
celebrating the birth of the Savior of
the world by a wanton waste and ex-
travagance which jeopardizes the wel-
fare of millions of human beings yet
unborn is obvious to every thinking
man."
A curious attempt to raise a \$1 silver
certificate to the \$5 denomination was
discovered the other day at a Boston
bank. On the face of the bill were
twenty-seven different places where
changes or obliterations had been
made, and on the reverse there were
fourteen more. No attempt had been
made to change anything but the num-
erals and the word "one" wherever

it occurred. First, the "ones" were
obliterated by erasure and then "Vs"
were drawn in very fine tissue paper
and pasted on. About \$10 worth of
labor must have been expended in the
perpetration of this chummy \$4 swindle.
American agricultural implements
are imported into Mexico, at least
along the border, without competition
from abroad. Our manufacturers have
a clear field and a market to them-
selves. In addition to this advantage
the demand for United States agricul-
tural machinery is steadily increasing.
In the first place, implements for
tilling the soil are better in the United
States than those made in any other
country. Our manufacturers have the
advantage of quick transportation and
moderate freight rates, and all agricul-
tural implements shipped into Mexico
are entered free of duty at the custom
houses.

FEMININE WITTICISMS.
**The Ready Retort of Fr. Talmage's
Gay Daughter.**
Here are some bright, witty sayings
of women, culled from Kate Sanborn's
book, "My Favorite Lectures of Bong
Ago":
At a supper party the conversation
turned on talking shop. Some one de-
clared that an actor or musician was
never happy unless allowed to talk
shop by the hour, and then it was
pointed out that doctors and barristers
were just as bad. A witty lady
present added: "Yes, philosophers
talk Schopenhauer, ladies shopping,
tipplers schoppen, musicians Chopin
and actors shop."
Although they make no pretensions
to wit, there is much genuine humor
among the women journalists of Bos-
ton. "Do you live on the Back Bay?"
said a lady once to Miss Jenkins,
whose home then was on a narrow
little street uptown. "Rather the
small of the Back Bay," she answered
instantly.
Dr. Talmage's youngest daughter
was fond of evening gayeties and
often slept late in consequence. Com-
ing down about 9 o'clock one morning,
she met her parents' stern gaze, and
received the very depressing greeting of
"Good morning, daughter of sin."
"Good morning, father," was the re-
sponse.
Sophie Arnold, a fascinating young
actress, about 1744, was noted for her
wit. Benjamin Franklin said he no-
where found such pleasure and such
wit as in her company. "What are
you thinking of?" she asked Bernard,
in one of his abstracted moods. "I
was talking to myself," he responded.
"Be careful," she said. "You gossip
with a flatterer."
Hearing of the grace and agility of
a pretty Scotch lassie, who had danced
the sword dance for some of her offi-
cers, Queen Victoria commanded the
same diversion for herself and was
equally entertained. At the close of
the brilliant performance, the girl ad-
vanced and courtesied profoundly.
"What can I do for you?" asked her
majesty. "Give me the head of Glad-
stone," said the modern Herodias. "I
would gladly do that, my dear, but he
lost it some years ago," retorted the
Queen.

What to Avoid.
Here are a few rhetorical "don'ts"
that are worth remembering by those
seeking after literary style:
Do not use as length for at last. Say
"A man named Brown," not "a man by
the name of Brown."
Use begin instead of commence. A
telegraphic message is a despatch, not
a dispatch. Do not use dirt for earth,
loam, gravel, or sand, or anything that
is not filthy.
Say the first three, the second three,
the last three, not the three first, etc.
Do not use directly for immediately.
Say women and men, not ladies and
gentlemen, except when social distinc-
tions are made.
Do not say anything occurs unless it
takes place by chance. Funerals and
weddings do not occur.
Do not use off with from or of, as
"He jumped off (from) the table." "He
took the book off (of) the table."
Do not say "An old man 70 years of
age." "A young girl 7 years old."
Partake means to share, to take part
of. One cannot say, "Being left alone,
he partook of a hearty meal."
A person may receive a thing from
but never of another. Say "a common
friend," not "a mutual friend."
Chronic Fault Finders.
As a rule, the people who think it
clever to admire nothing and enjoy
nothing, are not amply dowered either
by nature or fortune. There was once
a young man who said he could write
proverbs which would equal Solomon's.
"Try a few," said a friend. And that
young man has yet to produce his first
proverb. I dare say you have heard of
the fault-finder who was looking into
the shop window of a naturalist and
called a man out to tell him that he
had stuffed an owl very poorly, and
to explain how very differently it should
have been done. When he was find-
ing fault with the bird and declaring
it had been stuffed so as to look quite
unnatural, the owl turned its head
and winked at the fault-finder—for it
was alive! Do not be too quick to pick
flaws in the work of others. Are you
quite sure you could have done as well
yourself?
Largest Railway Bridge.
One of the grandest engineering
works in the network of railways in
central and west Siberia is undoubtedly
the bridge over the Yenissei. It will
cost 2,279,350 roubles, and will be the
largest railway bridge in the world.
It will be opened for traffic next May,
a year before the date originally fixed.
The material employed in the construc-
tion is stone and iron.—Tomsk Sibir-
skiy Visetnik.

The greater the reason for saying
thank you, the harder it is to say.