A Man Who Refused to Give Ten Conta.

But Afterward Gave Ten Dollars. "Any one who can get a dollar of old one of those men who are always complaining of hard times. He owns a always unsatisfactory. Once a little child, shivering with cold and almost starving, found her way into old Ned

"What do you want here, little girl; what do you want here?"

"Won't you please give me ten cents. I am nearly starved." "Nearly starved. Why, where are

your parents?"

Polder's office.

"That's bad; that's very bad, indeed, but I can't help it. We've all got to die, and the sooner the better for some of us. Tut, tut, don't ery. Run along, now. It's pretty chilly to-day, but I think it will be warmer to-morrow."

"But I am so hungry, sir. "Yes, I understand. People get hungry every now and then. I was once hungry myself, but I hustled round and got something to eat. Don't give up, keep on trying, and perhaps you may get something to eat after awhile. Oh, no, I can't give you ten cents. Couldn't think about it, for my pew rent is due to-day, besides, I have been taxed with foreign mission business. That's right, run along and shut the

Shortly after the little girl went down, a large man with bushy whiskers and fierce expression of countenance, entered and, drawing up a chair without an invitation, sat down, crossed his legs and said:

'Is this Mr. Polder?" "Yes, sir, that's my name. Business with me? Please be brief, for I am in a big hurry.

"I won't detain you long. I have heard that you are a man of rare judgment and that you have had much experience in the law. I want your advice. Don't be impatient. I won't detain you long."

"And I won't detain you at all, sir, if you'll be so kind as to excuse me. 'You must hear what I have to say, for it concerns you financially. "Ah, proceed then, but be brief, sir,

be brief." "Several days ago, a man went into the office of a well-known gentleman and wanted to borrow five dollars. The gentleman hooted at the idea. The man who wanted the money did not hoot. He looked like an owl of wisdom, but not a single suggestion of a hoot escaped him. He fixed his eyes on the gentleman, just like I am doing. and said that he must have the five dollars. Now what I want to know is, did the man act rightly in killing the rich gentleman simply because he re-fused to give the five dollars?" "It was murder!" exclaimed Polder.

"It was murder in the first degree." "That's what I thought, still I am not willing to risk my judgment in such matters. So you think that it was murder?"

"Of course I do." "Yes, I think so, too, but, as I said before, I felt a reluctance in risking my own judgment. You may have noticed that the judgment of the average man is as full of holes as a sifter, or the hat which the rich cheerfully give to the poor. Murder-well, considering everything, I suppose it was." "But, my dear sir, how-does it con-

cern me financially?" "In this way. Some man might enter your office-some half crazy fellow -and demand five dollars. You might refuse, which I have no doubt you would be tempted to do, and he might kill you with a knife. You would regard that murder, would you not?" "I-I hardly understand you, sir," looking suspiciously at the visitor.

"Of course I would regard it murder." "Yes, and quite naturally so, but does it occur to you that all the time you were regarding this matter you would be dead? It would be murder. and you would be the murdered man." "I don't think you have any business with me, sir, and you will please re-

"I came up here with that intention. As I was ascending the steps-which I noticed had not been swept for some time-I said to myself, 'I expect to retire from the presence of that man.' Yes, that is the way I mused. "But did you think that you would

retire as soon as I requested?" "Strange, but that did not enter my head. The human mind is a curious piece of machinery, full of odd cogs and little wheels that fly around and larger ones that labor like the editor of an agricultural paper. You understand, I suppose. "Yes, but I do not understand the

object of your visit." "No? Well, I said that it concerned you financially

"You said so, but I don't see that i

"Now, you see, there's evidence another mental phenomenon. I should think that a man of your brow, bulging with acumen and pressed hard by lore, would have divined the object of this pleasant visit. I want to borrow five dollars, and say-if anyone should come up here after I am gone-if the police should be nosing around, don't mention the fact that I committed murder in the first degree because a man down in Texas refused to lend me five dollars. What! you hesitate. A strange chill seizes me. Haven't five dollars! Oh. well, that ten dollar note will answer. Thank you, sir. You tremble. 'Tie well. So, you see, the visit concerned you financially. When the man descended to the

street, he removed his disguise and was talking to the Governor of the State when old Polder, pale and almost breathless, came down. "Did you see a man with bushy whis-

kers come along here?" "Yes," replied the robber. "He eemed to be in a great hurry. Uncle Ned. I think he went down on the river bank. Did you wish to see him?" "No-no-not particularly. He was up in my office just now and wanted to sell me some—some hogs. But it

makes no difference. "Little girl," said a man approaching the child who had begged for ten cents, and who had told her story in the presence of the robber. "come into this store. The man who refused to give you ten cents gave me ten dollars for you. He would have given it to you. but he hadn't the time. He is a very busy old gentleman. Come on, and when we have bought some warm clothes, we'll go over and get something to eat.'

"Oh, he's a good old man, isn't he?" "Yes, he is such a good old man, little girl. But don't ask him for any more. It bothers him. Come on, and when you have had a nice dinner, you must go home with me."-Arkansas Traveler.

Queen Victoria rarely indulges in a joke, but she once gave a good hit at Sir Charles Dilke, who had little sympathy for the royal family. Some one spoke disparagingly of Sir Charles Dilke's criticisms of the civil list, whereupon the Queen remarked: "It is strange, for I remember having him as a boy on my knee and stroking his hair. I suppose," added Her Majesty, after a moment's pause, "I must have stroked it the wrong way.—Good

THE FOES OF FISH.

Becent Inquiries by the United States Fish Commiss The recently issued bulletins of the Ned Polder's money is on the road to United States Fish Commission contain fortune," is a proverb well known to much interesting matter concerning the citizens of Little Rock. Polder is the habits of fish and of the enemies of fish. A paper by G. E. Sims, Jr., describes a novel and unexpected enemy great deal of property, and raises his to the pisciculturist, discovered among rents every season, yet his income is the weeds in his aquarium, in the shape of a fish-eating plant. "My attention was first drawn to it," Mr. Simms says, "by observing that several of the tiny fish, without any apparent cause, were lying dead on the weeds, while the rest of the brood looked perfectly healthy and in good condition. At first I was somewhat puzzled at the strange position in which they were lying, and in trying to move one with a small twig, was still more surprised to find it was held fast by the head, in what I thought, when I pulled the plant from the wa-

ter, were the seed vessels; and a still closer examination revealed the strange fact that others of the little fish had been trapped by the tail, and in one or two instances the head and tail of the same fish had been swallowed by adja-

cent bladders, thus forming with its

body a connecting bar between the two. This is a plant known to botanists as Dricalaria vulgaris. A peculiar fact in connection with it is that it has no roots at any time of its life, and the floating, root-like branches which are covered with numerous capillary and much divided leaves are interspersed with tiny green vesicles, which were supposed by a former school of botanists to be filled with water, by which means the plant was kept at the bottom until the time of flowering, when the water gave place to air, and the plant then rose to the surface to allow its bloom to expand. As a matter of fact, these vesicles exercised no such function, their real work being to entrap minute crustaceans, worms, larvæ, etc., for its support, and without a good supply of

which it is impossible to keep it alive in an aquarium. Snakes and muskrats appear to be chief among the enemies of the carp. Reports made by Rud. Hessel, Super-intendent of the United States carpponds, during August and September, 1883, are quoted to show the destruction of young carp by snakes. In this report Mr. Hessel says: "During the past few days a great many snakes have appeared at the ponds, many of which have been killed, as follows: August 4, 16; August 5, 32; August 6, 52; August 7, 32; August 8, 39; August 14: August 10, 15; August 11, 21. This makes 221 snakes killed in one week. In the smaller snakes I found from nine to fifteen young carp, and in the larger ones sometimes over twenty-

five, besides undigested skeletons of fish. They contained no frogs or tadpoles. We can, therefore, see that one medium-sized snake devours forty young carp per day, for they digest very quickly. That would make for 225 snakes 9,000 carp per day, and 63,-000 per week. That number is correct, and it shows that snakes are more injurious than cranes, herons and other birds. I kill them by shooting, sometimes only seeing a small part of the head in the water, or hiding beneath water plants. I have had opportunity to see how they catch the young fish. and how they devour them. An old wall constitutes their best hiding place.

often shoot them sitting in the cracks of the old wall, the head looking outside, watching the poor little fishes." A paper by Dr. C. Hart Merriam on "The Muskrat as a Fish-eater," says: 'At a meeting of the Biological Society of Washington, held in the National Museum December 14, 1883, Mr. Henry W. Elliott spoke of the 'Appetite of the Muskrat.' He stated that in certain parts of Ohio the muskrat did great inury to carp ponds, not only by perforating the banks and dams and thus let-

ting off the water, but also by actually capturing and devouring the carp, which is a sluggish fish, often remaining motionless, half buried in the mud. In the discussion that followed Dr. Ma-Graham Ellzey said that from boyhood he had been familiar with the fact that the muskrats sometimes eat fish. In fact, he had seen muskrats in the act of devouring fish that had been recently caught and left upon the bank. The president, Dr. Charles A. White, narrated a similar

experience. On the 7th day of Febuary, 1884, 1 brought this subject to the notice of the Linnaan Society of New York, and asked if any of the members knew the muskrat to be a fish-eater. Dr. Edgar A. Mearns said that he had long been familiar with the fact, and that it was no uncommon thing to see a muskrat munching a dead fish upon the borders of the soft marshes along the Hudson. He had shot them while so engaged. In a letter dated Charlottesville, Va. March 18, 1884, Mr. R. T. W. Duke writes: "On Saturday evening caught, with a hook, a carp which would weigh about four pounds. I put it in my bath-tub filled with water.

Yesterday, about eight o'clock a. m., put the carp in a small box, surrounded it with wet moss, and forwarded it to Lynchburg by express. It reched there about four p. m., and I learn this morning from my friend to whom it was sent that when taken out and placed in a tub it was as lively as could be. We ate a small carp Sunday morning, and

thought it very good."

The method frequently adopted by fish culturists to destroy noxious fishes is to introduce quicklime into the pond. This for a time exerts a very destructive influence, but before long becomes inert by slaking and forming a harmless combination. If the water is drawn off after liming, of course it would be very much better, and at the end of a week carp or any other fish could be introduced. Dr. Rud. Hessel, Superintendent of the carp pond, said, November 23, 1883: "Some forty eels have been killed during the last eight days in the East Pond, and there are still more. One barrel of lime is required to exterminate them."-Chicago Times.

A Horrid Husband's Irony.

"I see, dear, that you are getting along well with your household duties,' said a young husband to his wife, holding up a biscuit and looking at it critic-

"Oh, goody," she exclaimed. "I am so glad you like the biscuit, George." "Yes," he replied, "you are getting along well; but," he continued, "allow me to offer a suggestion. Put some bar iron into your next batch of biscuits. I have a lingering suspicion, dear, that you used sheet iron this time, because you see I can break this bis cuit easily over my knee. What the American home-made biscuit most needs is real solid iron-iron that you can depend upon, and the hotels will get all the trade, or men will begin to marry wooden tobacco signs.

She called him a horrid thing, and they never speak now unless there is company present.

-The cider mills of Maine are groaning beneath their task, and the cider is flowing from the presses in great abundance. Many thousand bushels of apples, which in other years, when there was a paucity of fruit, would be valuable for sale in the markets, are being ground up for vinegar. Farmers say that they derive more profit from their fruit manufactured into vinegar than in any other way. Cider barrels are in great demand, and many are being shipped to Maine from Boston.—

AN INQUISITIVE POSYMASTER.

Reporter's Adventure in an Illigol Postoffice-His Experience as a Spring

Poet Bouncer Comes in Good Play. A reporter was in a very small town n Illinois one day this week. We were expecting a check from the editor, and consequently our footsteps were directed towards the postoffice. Arriving at the office, which is in a little one-story frame building, we inquired, "Is there any mail for me?" forgetting to give our name. The postmaster eved us for a second, then turned and glanced over a big package of letters; he found none. and then scrutinized another bundle. Again failing to find the expected letter, ne turned towards the reporter and surveved him from head to foot. "Say, what's yer name?" he then in-

We told him and again he turned and carefully inspected the very same letters that he had only a moment before examined. Then he turned and queried: "Where's the letter to come from?"

"Evansville," we answered. "Oh-o, so! Guess I'll find it, then. The same performance was again indulged in, but without effect. He lazily laid the letters aside and asked us if we were any relation to the so and so's, that used to live in Rattan County, Kansas. We answered him in the neg-

"Visiting here, I s'pose?" "Yes; is there any mail for me?" "What did yer say yer name was?" We told him again, and he remarked

bundle," and he extracted another from a pigeon hole. Evansville-Evansvillelet's see, that village is in Ohio, ain't

"No. sir. Southern part." "Near Posey County? How's politics there?

"O, letter? I'll see." and he finished rummaging over the package, and found one that he eved for half a minute nearly. Just then a voice in the

"Chicken fight. Bet a dollar on Jones' cock!" With the letter in hand the postmaster made his exit through the back door. We sat down and waited ten minutes, then called in a passing boy and gave him a dime to go round the back way and call the government

"Want to see me?" he innocently inquired, coming to the window. "For heaven's sake, man, are you crazy? I have been here an hour.' "Want mail? What's yer name?"

"O, you're the fellow that was standing here awhile ago?"

"Here is a letter." But before he gave it to us a young lady came in and the postmaster turned his attention to her. They chatted patience was gone.

ing me that letter that he is holding in his hand!" "Letter? O, ves! Here it is."

We grasped it eagerly and-heavens, it was for Smith. "Say, this letter isn't for me!"

"Isn't your name Smith?" This was too much. We remembered the many days we had acted as spring poet bouncer at the Argus office and umped over the partition. The maiden fled, and then the matinee-for gentlemen only-commenced. First one of that old party's heels would knock over a pile of "dead matter," then as he swung around again another would knock over a lot of Congressional reports that he was saving to sell for old paper, and about four hundred packages garden seeds sent by Congressman Snags to his constituents in that county. Then his right arm would hit his date stamp and knock it so that it would strike his mucliage bottle and carom onto the ink bottle and break both. Then another arm would go through the air and knock off a lot of circulars from the Henry College Lottery, and finally with a wild yell we picked him up and fired him through a back window, right through a big poster of

acting in the place of glass. As we got on the train the next morning at St. Louis, we heard the newsboys yelling: "All about the bloody affair at Snagsville. Eight masked robbers atposed to be robbery!

We only smiled. We could afford to dinner with, and our pass was safe in our pocket.—Evansville Argus.

NOVELTIES OF CHINESE COS-TUME.

affords abundant opportunities for theft.

A Chinaman's jackets are his ther-

this rate, to-morrow will be four or five | Another Windsor cat has developed a caps are of three or four different forms. | himself on a limb overhanging another, One they call the "watermelon cap," of at a place where the way to the ground the shape of half a watermelon, having | is clear of branches and boughs. If a no front-piece, but instead, a knob on bird happens to light on the lower the top by which it is handled. The branch, Sir Thomas makes a dive and second is like a round top felt hat with the sides turned up, and others are way to the ground, and dines at his of various shapes. The color of the leisure. His movements have been knob on top of the hat is the sign of watched several times, and he has not rank among mandarins. The lowest | yet been known to miss his prey. He wear a gilt knob, then a white stone, a invariably catches the bird in his mouth clear crystal, a pale blue stone, a deep | while making the flying trip. - Vermont blue, a pale red and a deep red, in order of rank. Yellow may only be worn by

ow, this always entitling them to great consideration among all classes. dawn of history, on state occasions, officials and dressy persons will wear a sort of pantaloon, fitting as tightly as possible to the leg and each leg being entirely separate from its fellow. These trousers are of silk or satin, and the legs are held in place by being fastened to a waistband or belt around the body. On the approach of cold weather the Chinese increase the number of their garments, until sometimes they are like animated bales of cotton, their arms being forced into a nearly horizontal position; nor do they take off their masses of clothing until the return of

special edicts are allowed to wear yel-

-There are rumors of several large engineering enterprises as likely to be brought to the attention of manufacturers during the winter, and a large amount of railroad building is projected. -Railway Review.

FABLED MONSTERS.

Touderful Stories Told of Serpents with

Legs and Lious with Snake Tails. At what period fancy began its work in zoology is a question which is discreetly avoided or acknowledged a puzzle by those writers who have diligently delved through the records of all people for traces of fabulous denizens of the earth, the sea and the air. That fascinating terror of the nursery, the fiery dragon, it is agreed, is probably the degenerate offspring of the awful ichthvosauri and plesiosauri of prehistoric ages. Chiseled on the earliest stone monuments of Egypt and Assyria and India exact representations are found of the dragon which St. George overcame in a mighty battle, and which the annals of Winchester say existed in England in such numbers in 1177 as to be a great danger and scourge.

Diodorus saw one which was sixty feet long, brought to Alexandria by a slave to please Ptolemy II. St. Michsel's dragon the Monkish Chronicle says, was much larger than this. Marco Polosavs he saw a roc whose outstretched wings measured sixteen paces from tip to tip. Not to be outdone by the latter, that adventurous Englishman, Sir John Mandeville, relates that he beheld one in the Chinese seas which was, beside Polo's like a hawk to a sparrow. El Wsrdee, the Persian, writes that upon an island, in an unnamed sea, there was in his time a roc's egg 100 cubits high, a firm, white, glistening dome, big enough to serve as shelter for an army. An island in the Chinese sea was marked out as the home of these great birds.

Of all fabled birds the most interesting was the phoenix. This is a beautiful legend, a yearning, it has been eloquently said, for a visible sign of immortality. St. Cyril wrote: "God knows man's unbelief and provides the phonix as an emblem of the resurrection." Clement said this bird goes to the land of Egypt once in 500 years, not to the desert, but to a notable city, to show forth the resurrection, that as the Lord was killed and rose again, so the phænix immolates itself in a fire of hemlock boughs, and from its ashes comes a world which straightway grows into the bird of golden plumage with a purple body. The polished literature of the Latins from its birth until its immersion in the fogs of the Dark Ages, glows with the description of the phænix as a reality. Pliny knew the bird well. The populace believed in it. The brave Manlius rose in the Senate to mourn the departure of a phænix which had resided near his house for five hundred years. Among other flying creatures which existed in the popular belief of the Latins were the flying pig, an enormous hog with an appetite that ravaged the growing crops of Herzomenæ; and the griffin, a lion with an eagle's head and wings. Sir John Mandeville saw a griffin fly into a field and carry off a yoke of oxen. The Romans firmly believed in the satyr. Pliny said they lived in India; Albertus Magnus, that they inhabited the woods of Saxony; another writer that their home was in the Atlas Mountains, and another that they were to be found in what is now Little Russia. There is no record that a satyr was ever seen alive. Albertus Magnus, however, wrote that he once saw a satyr pickled in brine at Alexandria, where the Ptolemys reigned

and collected such curiosities. Imagination has sounded the mysterious depths of the ocean and brought up the terrible kraken or kraxen. There are thousands of Norwegian fishermen, it is said, to whom this monster is no fable. They can tell its presence by the water rising when it rises to the surface in warm weather. Bishop Pontlapidan's kraken measured a mile and a half across its back, and its arms were as long as the masts of a man-of-war. Though the fear it has inspired has exaggerated its size, there is good reason to believe that the kraken, which is

doubtless the great cuttle-tish, grows to an enormous size. In the age of the Crusaders dwellers on the coast of the Mediterranean believed in the zitiron, a fish with its head and breast clad in steel armor. The Arabians had the zedrusus, a fish so big that its bones were sawed into planks. The pretty fable of the mermaid and the siren is slow in dying. Less than fifty years ago the people of the country for miles around swarmed to a little seaport in the south of England at a rumor that a mermaid had been seen sitting on a rock combing its luxuriant locks in the moonlight. The sea satur and the triton were familiar beliefs with the ancients. About two hundred years ago one of the latter was alleged to have been captured off the coast of Portugal in the very act of blowing his conch. Barnacle geese was a curious and strong belief in the Middle Ages. Sir John Mandeville did not omit to state that he had seen the diminutive goslings dropped from the shell of the mussel. Within a comparatively short period a letter appeared in an English newspaper relating how a barnacle goose, grown to a great size, had swallowed a full-rigged

N. Y. Star. Two Very Smart Cats.

ship and all on board save the writer .-

We hope none of our readers, who pride themselves on their skill as fishermen, will indulge feelings d jealousy on reading the following story of a cat that belongs to a lady in Vermont:

A few mornings since she was called to the front door of the house by the strange actions of tabby, and discovered an eel over two feet in length on buttons are never in a straight row, but the steps. After a few words of astonishment and approbation from her misbody. The outer garments have sleeves | tress, the old cat started for the brook again, and soon arrived with another. but smaller, eel. A third journey to the brook was made, and a large dace was brought back. Hardly a day passes three jackets cold, and if it increases at | but the cat brings in one or more fish. singular method of hunting birds. Their shoes are well known, and their Thomas climbs a certain tree and seats catches the bird in his mouth on the

> Journal. ----A Woman's Nature.

I think I have several times alluded to the very curious kind of thing woman is. I came across a French play which illustrates one phase of the female nature most amusingly. A young man has run away to escape a woman he has been flirting with. He is making love to a fresh flame, when the deserted one hunts him up. After a few bitter reproaches she says:

"Henry, darling, I love you. You know it. I have never hidden it from you. Perhaps you have not returned it. But mine is no selfish love. Tell me that you love another, and I will say no more. Tell me frankly you do not love me, and I will leave you without a mur-"Well," says the youth, frankly, "I

do not love you.'

Then she proceeds immediately to tear all his hair out, and leaves him on the floor a battered wreck .- San Francisco Chronicle

AN OXFORD PROCTOR.

plied to Failure in Examination.

gown represents the public ceremonies in which he takes part; the white bands denote the solemnity of his office; while

they doubtless feel, thoroughly wretched; the effort to appear dignified

failure in examination.

But this is by no means the only occasion on which the proctor has to go on duty. It is a sad fact that this splendid dignitary, with his velvet sleeves and snow-white bands, is compelled to prowl about the streets by night, fulfilling the functions of policeman. He is supported by three stalwart fellows in plain clothes, whose official title is "proctor's men." but who are popularly known as "bulldogs."-Cassell's Family Magazine.

CARRYING BUNDLES.

in the country, returning to Boston with a class-mate from a short journey, kindly carried the portmanteau of the latter through the streets in order to save his feelings in case they should meet any Bostonese of his acquaintance. This was almost half a century To-day so many men, women and children are rushing about with bundles to reach the cars that even an undergraduate of Harvard might not be ruined if seen with a portmanteau -especially one made of alligator skin. Whether the polite public would tolerate a fresh fish or a leg of mutton is doubtful. Perhaps some of our readers may remember the horror expressed by an English traveler at seeing President Lincoln with a parcel in his hand. That such a man could succeed in the war then raging the Englishman could not believe. That will do for bundles. * * * And this expression reminds us of a little story related of Mr. Longfellow. A Parisian once remarked to him that there was one American word that he never could understand or find in any dietionary. "What is it?" inquired the "Thateldo," was the reply. "I never heard of the word," said Longfellow. Presently a servant came in to replenish the fire. After putting on a little fuel Longfellow remarked to him: "That will do." claimed the Frenchman, "that is the very word which has puzzled me."-Boston Every Other Saturday.

"Shakel" Some years ago an emigrant from the United States kept a small restaurant in a town situated in one of the great stock-raising districts of South Australia. He was presumably the only Yankee in those parts. There was an enormously rich old stockman who came into town from his lordly cattle range at intervals, whose nationality was a matter of doubt, though he usually passed for a taciturn and uncommunicative bachelor Scotchman. One day this wealthy but solitary old chap entered the restaurant of the man from the States. When he left he looked hard at the proprietor, and then simply remarked:

Regularly once a week he reappeared, silently ate a hasty lunch, and made the same stereotyped inquiry, receiving the same emphatic, "Yes, siree!" in re-

pleasantly. Stretching out his shaking hand, the odd customer said:

"Shake! So am I." Then he tottered away without another word. Three days afterwards a lawyer came into our young countryman's place and told him that the queer old guy out on the Thompson range had died and left him a cool \$1,000,000.—San Francisco Post.

-About 10,000 Jewish immigrants | ver legs and a cover that automatically land at our ports yearly, and they have becomes an easel that holds up the been coming at that rate for ten years. pages one by one.

MISCELLANEOUS.

-A Sardinia, (Pa.) physician has taken forty-six needles out of the arms of Mrs. Seeley. She don't know how

they came there. -It is said by an authority that instead of being lean and lank as heretofore, American women are growing round and buxom.

-In Germany a man dare not cut down the trees on his own land without consent of the proper authorities, so zealous is the Government in preserving the forests.

-A recent estimate, made by means a very intricate testing apparatus, places the rate at which an electric dot travels over a telegraph wire at 16,000 miles per second. -A wonderful chasm has recently

been discovered in San Luis, Obispo County, California. An adventurous explorer was lowered into it to the depth of 4,000 feet without finding any bottom. The sides of the chasm are covered with magnificent cream-colored stalactites.-San Francisco Call. -A very simple plan for a street rail

Davis, of Newton, Mass., by which a track and pavement can be put down at about one-half the present cost, and yet be more durable; it will also save a large -Richard Hoodum, a poor man who also of any outsider who chooses to resides in Westmoreland County, on the look on-sheepishly stride up the long line of the Pennsylvania Railroad, found

road has been devised by Dr. H. G.

attempt at solemnity in their gait, but for, and a few days since he opened and after the senseless exercise has been re- appropriated it. The amount is said to peated two or three times they look, as be about \$25,000.—Pittsburgh Post. -A young lady, recently "out," at-tended her first wedding the other day. and the desire to get it over as soon On going up to congratulate the bride, as possible combine to produce her mind became somewhat confused, one of the most comical effects ever | and having been at a birthday party the day before she could think of nothing better to say than to wish the blushing

> the newly-made husband looked so sour as she passed on .- Chicago Rambler. -One of the most remarkable articles for export ever dispatched for scientific purposes from any country is, without doubt, says Nature, the consignment which lately left Norway for Germany. It consisted of fifty-two skeletons of Lapps, which had during the summer been unearthed at Utsjok. in Russian Lapland, and which an enterprising dealer of Vardo sold to various museums and societies on the conti-

nent at the price of \$30 apiece. -Hitherto it has puzzled eminent surgeons to account for sudden death caused by apparently inadequate wounds in the beart, such as those made by the prick, without penetration even, of a needle. Herr Schmey, a student of the Physiological Institute, Berlin, has, however, just discovered that when a needle pricks a certain small spot or the lower border of the upper third of the septum cordis quite instantaneously the movements of the heart are arrested

and forever set motionless in death. -Figures are wonderful things. Here is a sample of what can be done with them: By placing one grain of corn on the first square of a chess board, doubling the number of grains for each succeeding square, the quantity of corn re mired for the whole board of sixtyfe ir squares would fill 1,844,375 barns, each holding 1,000,000 bushels of 100,000 grains each, bushels round numbers. If the United States grows 1.800,000,000 bushels each year, it would require a little over 550 years to make enough .- Chicago Herald.

-When a Chinese boy is one month old his head is shaved and a bladder is drawn over it, and as his head grows the bladder bursts and the queue sprouts forth. The first shave is made the occasion of a magnificent banquet, host a handsome present in coin for the newly-shaven baby, with which a bank account is started to his credit. This is the most pleasant feature of the affair for the baby, as the razor always pulls, and he can not take part in the feast .-Chicago Times.

An Approaching Star. One of the most beautiful of all stars in the heavens is Arcturus, in the constellation Bootes. In January last the astronomer royal communicated to the Royal Astronomical Society a tabulated statement of the results of the observations made at Greenwich during 1883 in applying the methods of Dr. Higgins for measuring the approach and recession of the so-called fixed stars in direct line. Nearly two hundred of these observations are thus recorded, twentyone of which were devoted to Arcturus, and were made from March 30 to August 24. The result shows that this brilliant sinctillating star is moving rapidly toward us with a velocity of more than fifty miles per second (the mean of the

twenty-one observations is 50.78). This amounts to about 3,000 miles per minute, 180,000 per hour, 4,320,000 miles per day. Will this approach continue. or will the star appear stationary and then recede? If the motion is orbital, the latter will occur. There is, however, nothing in the rates observed to indicate any such orbital motion, and as the observations extended over five months, this has some weight. Still it might be traveling in a mighty orbit of many years' duration, the bending of which may, in time, be indicated by a retardation of the rate of approach then by no perceptible movement eitner toward or away from us, and this followed by a recession equal to its previous approach. If, on the other hand, the four and a half millions of miles a day continue, the star must become visibly brighter to posterity in spite of the enormous magnitude of cosmical distances. Our eighty-one-ton guns drive forth their projectiles with a maximum velocity of fourteen hundred feet per second. Arcturus is approaching us estimated at 1,622,000 times this. Therefore, if the star continues to approach us at the same rate as measured ast year, it will have completed the whole of its journey toward us in 93, 000 years .- Gentleman's Magazine.

The Clock in Trinity's Tower.

The clock in Trinity Church tower in

frame stands nine feet long, five feet high and three feet wide. The main wheels are thirty inches in diameter. There are three wheels in the time train and three each in the strike and the chime. The winding wheels are formed of solid eastings thirty inches in diameter and two inches thick, and are driven by a "pinion and arbor." On this arbor is placed a jack, or another wheel, pinion and crank, and it takes 850 turns of cotton would sheek the concussion .-

Besentific American.

OF GENERAL INTEREST.

-Young lady physicians are multiplying in Germany. -An elephant herd is always led by

-A ranchman in Texas owns six thousand horses. - Chicago Herald. -Carrots, turnips and cabbages are in Greenland.

-The demand for napkin rings made of wood grown at Walter Scott's home, Abbottsford, is proving a great drain on the forests of Maine. -A country road near Dublin is

slowly burning up. It was constructed of peat, and a fire is gradually eating it up, burning trees out by the

-At Charlotte, N. C., is a fountain which sends a stream two hundred and sixty-eight feet high, icy cold and clear as crystal. It has its source in the CONSULT THE FOLLOWING ALPHAadjacent mountains, and is said to be the highest in the world.

-Fifty thousand tons of soot are taken from London chimneys every year, and it is subsequently put to good use as manure-about one thousand pounds to the acre-the value being set at forty-one thousand pounds. -A lady of Wood River, Idaho, while

preparing potatoes for dinner the other day, found flakes of gold in the water. The gold was assayed, the value being fifteen cents. The settlement is now anxious to know where these potatoes were raised, but 10 one seems to know. -Chicago Times. -A deaf family in New Hampshire

has been traced back to the fourteenth century in England, and in all that time has regularly shown a succession of deaf mutes. In Maine there is a family in which there are ninety-five deal mutes, all of them connected by blood or marriage. - Boston Globe. -"Of all the watering places com mend me to Prymont. Fraulein

young matron "many happy returns of Schultze, from Berlin, came here sufthe day." And then she wondered why fering from a severe attack of impecuniosity, and in three weeks she was perfeetly cured." "By drinking the waters?" "No; by a wealthy Ameri can, whom she is going to marry.' -Der Ulk.

-The people of England and Scot and are, remarks the Spectator, multi plying so fast that pessimists may wel be excused for feeling some anxiety as to the future. The population of the kingdom, which in 1815 was 15,000,000, is now 36,000,000—that is to say, it has grown more in the last seventy years than in all the untold ages of the pre vious past.

-Fat people have now their choice between four systems. 1. The original Banting, which consists of eating nothing containing starch, sugar or fat. 2. The German Banting, which allows fat, but forbids sugar or starch. 3. A Munich system, which consists in being blankets instead of sheets. 4. Not eating and drinking at the same time.

-A traveler in England writes from the celebrated Mugby Junction (Rugby), satirized by Dickens, that the railway refreshments are as bad as ever they could have been. White flirting with the barmaid at the station be wrote his name with date on the lid of a pork pie. Three months after, coming that way, he saw the autograph still there on the same refreshment.

-Queen Margherita of Italy is making an effort to revive the making of Venetian point lace. She has estab lished a school, from which the graduates go out to teach to others the mysteries of the craft. Already there are four thousand pupils, all at work, and thirty-four varieties of point are turned out. Only by the color, it is said, may the new product be distinguished from the antique lace.

-Between Damascus and Jerusalem said to be a tribe of about three thousand Israelites, who have probably been there since the beginning of the Christian era. They have neither city nor town, but live in tents, and speak the Hebrew language among themselves, but use the Arabian with strangers. They have remained, like the primitive races, exclusively tillers of the soil and warriors. They go armed from head to foot.

-"Ferdinand, my love, why, do you sit so far from me this evening?" she anxiously inquired. He was silent and remained sitting at the opposite end of the sofa. Again she spoke. Again he was silent, hesitated, and finally murmured: "Isabel, my dear, I blush to tell it, but I have been eating onions today." "You darling!" exclaimed the lovely girl, with a look of glad surprise illuminating her face as she sprang close to his side, "so have I!"-Lowell

-In 1827 Charles Babbage superintended the printing of a set of trigonometrical tables for the ordnance survey of England and Ireland. Only thirty copies were printed. The tables contained six millions of figures. They were prepared and corrected with the utmost care, and when completed were hung up in the hall at Cambridge University and a reward offered to any one who could find an inaccuracy. Since their first issue in 1827 no error has been discovered, and it may reasonably be concluded that they are absolutely correct.

-A young medical student named Kittrell, of Mississippi, has been rendered temporarily insane by the sights in the dissecting-room of the Vanderbilt Medical College at Nashville. He was found by the police wandering about the streets, gesticulating wildly. He said to an officer: "It weakened my stomach. I can't stand it. I can't be a doctor. Oh, horrors! to think that they should know I could not live, and want me to sell them my body for dissection before I died. Never, I will go home to Mississippi if I have to walk. Heaven help me. I am mad."-St. Louis Globe.

-Silver mines never die. From the with a speed that is two hundred times days of Cortez, in 1521, down to the greater than this. It thus moves over | beginning of this century, and even to a distance equal to that between the earth and the sun in twenty-one days. Our present distance from Arcturus is silver mines have poured forth an unceasing stream of silver, such as the world has never seen. It is estimated that the value of the silver coin and bullion of the country since the conquest is over \$30,000,000,000, and it is well-known that some of the mines have been profitably worked almost without interruption from that time to this, and that one of them at least is still running out silver at the rate of \$5,000,000 a year. California has yielded about \$1,100,000,000 of gold and silver. Nevada has turned out something like \$300,000,000-possibly more.—Chicago Times.

A New Gunpowder. For a time it looked as if other explosives were to take the place of gunpowder, but now it seems an improvement in the composition of the latter has given it vastly more power. The this crank to wind each weight up. It improved powder is now used alto-requires 700 feet of three inch rope for gether in Krupp's famous gun factory the three cords, and over an hour for two men to wind the clock, The penthis powder gives as much projectile dulum is eighteen feet long, and oscil- force as an ordinary charge of the old lates twenty-five times a minute. The gunpowder; the smoke is less dense, dials are eight feet in diameter, although | and clears up quicker. It burns more they look little more than half that size | slowly at first, but gains intensity at from Broadway. The three weights are the final explosion. Lieutenant Day, about eight hundred, twelve hundred of this country, has an equally good and fifteen hundred pounds respectively. powder that is called "coeoa powder," A large box is placed at the bottom of because its color is like enocolate. the well that holds about a bale of cotton Mankind are not only adding to their waste, so that if a cord should break the stock of terrible explosives, but are also improving the older inventions .-Demorest's Monthly.

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that if the letter was there it came in on the morning train. "O, yes, that's so. I'll look over this

"No, sir. It's in Indiana." "Small place, I guess, near Ft. Wayne?"

"Hang politics! Is there a letter for rear of the office velled:

Come outside, you danged stinker and I'll show you. "Are you going to give me my mail?"

away for five or ten minutes, but our "Will you excuse me, mam? This infernal galoot has been two hours hand-

The girl tittered.

the Snags County District Fair that was

tack the postmaster, who shoots two and drives the others off. Object supsmile: we had succeeded in borrowing tifty cents of a friend in St. Louis to buy

Nothing Fits Except His Stockings, Jackets The principal feature soout a Chinaman's costume is the fact that nothing ever fits but his stockings. His clothing consits really, of three or four shirts, or garments made after the fashion of a shirt, each opening in front and having five buttons, a sacred number. These in a sort of semi-circle half around the a foot longer than the arm, a fact which

mometer. He will say: "To-day is the Emperor'sfamily, but as a mark of respect to age, men over sixty years by

The dude pantaloon probably originated among the Chinese, for, from the spring .- St. Louis Globe Democrat.

The Origin of the Term "Plucked" as Ap-Picture to yourself a gentleman between thirty-nine and fifty years of age, dressed in a black gown, with ample velvet sleeves edged with waspcolor, and white bands (such as clergymen were wont to wear) depending from his throat, and you will have some idea of the external appearance of an

Oxford proctor. His dress is symbolic. The black the velvet sleeves express the softness of his manners, and the wasp-colored border suggests the sting that lurks be-In dignity he ranks next only to the

vice chancellor; he walks second in the procession of magnates which files into St. Mary's Church every Sunday to hear the University sermon; he receives the names and fees of candidates for the public examinations, and plays a conspicuous and highly amusing part in the ceremony of conferring degrees. After each batch of new-made graduates have had a Latin incantation mumbled over them by the vice chancellor, two proctors—in the presence not only of percentage in repairs. -Boston Post miversity officials and students, but room and back again without saying a package of money three years ago. or doing anything. At first there is an He advertised it, but it was never called

The reason for this absurd performance is not fair to seek. In ancient days any tradesman who had money owing him from an undergraduate might arrest the proctor's course by plucking his sleeve, and so prevent the defaulter from taking his degree till his debt had been discharged. Few people know that this is the real origin of the term "plucked," as applied to

Including One of Longfellow. In the matter of carrying bundles: A gentleman cd threescore years-a millionaire-was once clerk in a bookstore, and tells this story of the late Jonathan Phillips, who came into the store one morning and purchased a book. After doing it up, the clerk said: "Mr. Phillips, I will send this to your house." "No," said he; "young man, I will tell you a secret. When you get to be as old as I am you will earn that the most independent man is he who is his own servant." It is related of Dr. Parkman—the same who was murdered-that whenever he bought a leg of mutton he carried it home himself. On being asked why he did this, he said "he wanted to be sure of the one he had picked out." There is somewhere a dictum of Lord Eldon. the famous English lawyer and judge, that a lawyer might carry a green bag and the guests are expected to make the or a fresh fish through the streets. The latter perhaps for the same reason that Dr. Parkman carried his mutton. But query, whether this would be good law in Beacon street? An eminent exjudge of Massachusetts, who was born

"American, aren't you?" On being answered in the affirmative the millionaire cow-puncher walked away without another word.

this city is the heaviest in America. The ply. At last there came a time when the eccentric old customer did not return. One month went by-two. At last a wagon stopped at the door, and the old fellow, pale and wasted with sickness, was helped out and supported into the saloon. He called for his usual steak with a weak but dogged determination, ate a morsel and then tottered up to the counter. As he paid his bill he whispered, hoarsely: "American, aren't you?" "You bet," replied the proprietor.

-New photograph albums have sil-

roots.

a female, never by a male.

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