Pretenses of Trusts.

A Score of Common Necessaries of

Life Materially Advanced in

Price by the Effective

Method of Combination.

the reduction of the cost of production.

only in concentration," they say, "and con-

ing, compiled by the Chicago Tribune:

cently.

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# THE SIXTH MRS. WASHANE.

First Woman Able to Conquer and Subdue One of the Crankiest Men in Pottsville.

By BERTHA BARTLETT. \*\*\*\*\*

People generally in Pottsville pitted the, that he was a kind of saint, did you? Well, new Mrs. Washane that was to be. Not that now, Lucia didn't when he used to beat he Pottsville people were acquainted with her

and allowed their acquaintanceship to run riot with their sympathies; not so; they knew of her by hearsay only, as a widow. Widow Douglas, they believed, of Green Meadows.

But they did know John Washane. That was enough to know. John Washane, wh had placed less than a year ago the plain ye touchingly inscribed stone to the fifth Mrs. Washane. The first Mrs. Washane's stone testified that "None knew her but to love her;" the second, "Her price was above rubles." Mrs. Washane, third, was lamented as one who "had done what she could:" th fourth, "as one whom the heart of her husband could safely trust in;" while number five's epitaph was "She always made hom And now number six was about to happy. be offered' at the connubial altar-to said Pottsvillians

It was talked over at the various sewing circles, and suggestions were offered, mo tions made and carried as to the best way in which to apprise the new Mrs. Washane to-be of her unenviable prospect; and one day-as it happened, only a week prior to the marriage-an anonymous epistle found its way to the Widow Douglas of Greet Meadows.

"Dear Friend"-thus ran the letter "Dear Friend, though strangers to you, we feel it incumbent upon us to write you, er you take upon yourself the yows of connu bial obedience to one John Washane o Pottsville. He is an honest man. He is generous man. But truth compels us to state that in spite of many virtues he has worried his many former wives into untimely graves by nagging and bossing. That this may not be your fate is the wish and prayer of

"YOUR WELL-WISHERS." The Widow Douglas read the letter, a curious little frown, that was half a smile showing itself as she perused the anonymous missive.

п.

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The wedding ceremony was over. Mrs. Washane, sixth, was an accomplished fact, and the twain, now one, having driven in their own hired hack all . away from Green Meadows to Pottsville, were about to enter the house which Sally Lancaster had with indignant vehemence gotten in readiness to receive the bride.

"And now, John, as soon as we can ge you never told her that she made your our clothes changed I think you had better home as happy as heaven, and she diedhang that gate while I am getting supperand John, dear, I didn't want to hear what I noticed it sags."

all the others had heard, and so I gave you "Lu-Lucia-wh-what?" John Washane the chance to hear the kind of talk your was plainly astoniched at the admonitory wives had heard-and-John, dear, you're tone of his new made helpmate. Mrs. Washnot angry, dear, are you-because-well, it ane's answer was a triffe disturbed in tone has been lovely here, and I'm so glad you though sweet.' married me and gave me a chance to for "I hope, John, that you're not going to

get George Douglas. You're not angry annoy me by causing me to repeat my John, dear?" words-my dear departed husband always And John Washane kissed his pretty, coax paid close attention when I spoke. I said ing young wife, and said: "If you'll never 'You'd better hang that gate as soon as mention your 'dear departed' to me again, you get your everyday clothes on, as i I'll tell you what I think-I've got a wife

8ags 80." now who is the best and brightest, lovell-Thus was the beginning of John Washest, sweetest, cleverest, dearest womanane's sixth marital venture; when he came there, there, puss, don't smother me!" into the house he was urged to take off his

boots at the threshold and reminded "Never did I thus have to address my firs husband." Constantly were the statements made: "What would my dear Partner Doug las have thought had I been obliged to ast Paris postmen, says the New York Sun, him to bring up coal!" "Dear George would never have failed to procure the best of meals and butter." Until at last John brings again into notice the view taken of Washane became accustomed to the oft repeated assertions and actually felt that, compared with the late George Douglas, he.

stoffice systems, applying the net revenues WHOLESALE SQUEEZING OF CONSUMERS o their treasuries, though these figures are cluded in the operations of the German 'til she was nearly dead; and she didn't stoffices generally. when he stole Parson Grant's colt; nor she There are nearly 7,500 postoffices in Italy, didn't when he used to swear blue streaks where the telegraph system is under gov-ernment control. The gross revenue from at her; nor when she used to have to keep herself and him from starving by taking it Italian postoffices last year was 50,000,000

washing-oh, she didn't think him a salet till he up and died in the gutter, relieving her of a nulsance. I mind how she broke down when we told her that he was dead, The Italian postoffices are run at a loss of and said 'He's done one good thing that I about \$1,000,000 a year, partly, though not hope the Lord will give him credit for, he's wholly, made up from the profits of the died."

John Washane walked home in a dazed ondition

"Lucia," his voice was still somewhat awed as he addressed her, in spite of what with, and a part of, the telegraph system, he had heard. "Lucia, did-did-did-' "Oh, John, why don't you say what you start to without repeating? Dear George used to speak so differently."

"Did he ever cuss you?" John had found his tongue at last.

"Why, John!" "And strike you? Get drunk-steal-neelect-come, Lucia, tell me, I want to know

the truth Mrs. Washane's dimples became apparent "Some one has been talking," she said, twinkle in her brown eyes, "so I may as well admit it. He was-oh, John dear, he 000 guilders, or \$600,000. The Belgian post- coffee, tin cans, raisins, butterine, kidney did make my life so miserable, so unbear-

'Why did you deceive me so?" John denanded, pulling upon his knee the wife whom hitherto he had hardly dared to kiss. lay of \$500,000 a year less. 'You made me think he was an angel, all In the extent of postal receipts the United but."

"It's too had." Mrs. Washane gave a play ful tweak to the grizzled moustache so near her face. "But, John, dear, I did it in selfbeen collected in the postoffice in any pre- terday and a year ago: defense. I'd heard how you told your second wife of the virtues of Susan. And I'd heard how she came at last to the conclusion that

you didn't think she was worthy to untie your shoestrings and so died. And then you told your third wife that she had been a treasure, that Matilda was not to be mentioned lightly, that she was a worker, a helpmate, a woman of a thousand and you ould never forget her worth; and then

FOREIGN POSTAL REVENUES.

View of This Source of National In-

come Varies in Different Lands.

Jennie died and you put on her tombstone what you never told her you thought about her; and then Carrrie heard of Jennie's goodness, and how you could trust her, and a little, wiry chap of twelve summers, with Carrie tried to be like her, but died not sharp eyes, a foxy nose with freekles on it sharp eyes, a foxy nose with freekles on it knowing that you trusted her, too; and and a sandy suit of hair came in and asked about the sign in the window. He was esthen Mary-the sweetest woman that ever lived, I admit, for I knew her, she was my corted to the manager of the boy depart- Plug tobacco ......prices unchanged own cousin-Mary became your wife, and ment.

"We want a boy," said the manager, looking him over critically. "I'm a boy," the youngster explained,

the German policy of maintaining cheap

plan which has been found to work well and

fact that two of the minor German political

subdivisions, the kingdoms of Bavaria and

lire and the expenses of their maintenance

were 55,000,000 lire, showing a net loss of

,000,000 lire, or the equivalent of \$1,000,000.

elegraph system, which yields 18,000,000

The postoffice system of Russia is allied

expenses of both are 30,000,000 rubles, show-

them-that's all.

Wurtemburg, maintain their own separate

moreover, made more desirable by the

postage as an aid to popular instruction,

briefly. "What can you do?" inquired the man-

ager. "Most anything, I guess, that a boy can do around. I have been working for more than a year now."

"Where "In Mr. Blank's place. You know he's broke up."

"Well, we want a boy, but so far we haven't been able to find what we are look ing for."

"What is it you are looking for?" "We want a boy that is honest, industrious and diligent. He must always be

on time and must not run on the streets, nor play marbles for keeps, nor tell stories, nor smoke cigarettes, nor fight other boys, nor play ball on Sunday, nor use bad language, nor play tricks on the other boys in The recent strike for higher wages of the the store, nor get into any kind of mischief during business hours. He must be neat in his appearance, his clothes must postal revenues by various European gov- be kept tidy at all times, his face and hands ernments, some of them regarding post- | be clean and his shoes be well shined. In office business as an item of available na- addition-"

tional revenue, while others regard it as one of the public "utilities" which are main-ful applicant; "you ain't looking for a boy: you're lookin' for a Sunday school song, And News to Mother."

French postoffices, but is in compliance with RAPID BOOSTING OF PRICES plasters-corn plasters, kidney plasters,

drug stores the retail prices have not been Critical Examination of the Benevolent changed, except on the higher priced plasters.

A Sweep.

When the broommakers organized last week they lost no time in causing brooms to be sold for more money than formerly. In other days one could buy a broom for 16 cents, which was good enough to sweep the floor. Now a broom that will do that costs from 25 to 30 cents. The broommakers defend this action by saying that brooms were sold at too small a price before. The grocers who sell most of the brooms at retail do not deny the assertion of the broom Promoters of trusts invariably claim at the makers. Another reason for raising the outset that the purpose of combination is

they are made, was advanced in price. 'This is accomplished by economies possible The advanced cost of raw material is an gued in the case of many products which are controlled by trusts and the selling lips of English people of late, says the price of which has gone up. Fresh meat has advanced 2 cents a pound, but the butchers say the advance is due to the increased local government in Ireland, and the new

also under government control. The revenues all of the common commodities are nov amount to 40,000,000 rubles a year and the controlled by these giant industrial organi-This argument is used also in the case of rubber goods. The price of the raw rubber can foretell the consequences. zations. Sugar, petroleum products and ing a net profit of 10,000,000 rubles a year, iron and styel manufactures are not by any has advanced almost 100 per cent in the last two years, say the dealers in rubber | the governing Irishmen. Let us glance at or about \$5,000,000. The Russian govern- means the only things in the hands of trusts. goods. Rubber coats which are not made the careers of some compatriots who it ment does not maintain its postal and tele- It is cause for surprise when one by a trust have advanced in price from 15 to modern times have proved the continuity graph systems with a view of adding to the finds some article of popular use on instruction of the inhabitante. It runs them sale that is not from the hands of 20 per cent. For many seasons the rubas a matter of business, and makes a profit a trust. People generally discover that ber shoe manufactories have been in a trust a thing has come to be possessed by a and prices have been advanced, but the con-The annual revenues of the Dutch post- trust by reason of the advance of the price sumer has not felt this advance to any mice are 8,500,000 guilders, and the annual of the article. Wall paper, bananas, chew- great extent. It is explained that the reexpenses 7,000,000, showing a profit of 1,500,- ing gum, brooms, oatmeal, vinegar, flour, tail dealers lately have sold rubber boots and shoes at prices that gave them no profit, office department takes in the equivalent of and liver plasters, crackers, bread, glass- and, while the trusts have made money, \$5,000,000 a year and expends \$3,000,000. The ware, and ice cream are some of the things the dealers who handle their products have Belgian telegraph system represents an an- people generally have occasion to buy and not.

rubber goods to poor people is that of rubber boots, which laborers who work in ditches States is ahead of all other countries, and the articles recently seized by trusts, the and tunnels are compelled to have. The its revenues this year are expected to ex- prices of which have since been advanced. poor people may get along without rain poor people may get along without rain coats and rubber overshoes, but when their work demands it they must have the im-

pervious boots. The price of these remains at the usual figure of \$3.50, but the retailer pays nearly that much to the trust for them. In glassware the advance in prices has been startling. It is almost equivalent to XIV; Patrick Lawless, ambassador from 100 per cent advance. This includes window glass and all sorts of articles made of glass for domestic use. Restaurant keepers complain that they are compelled to pay just Browne, Russian marshals, and these are a twice as much for glass articles for their few of the names which spring to one's tables as they did before the trust got to mind. doing all the manufacturing of glass things Advance slight hewing gum ....retail price not advanced 'lour .....advanced 15c per bbi 'urniture .....materially advanced Yagons .....materially advanced 'lows .....materially advanced 'lows ......materially advanced The butterine factories are now in a trust also, or at least the greater number of them The Butterine trust has advanced the price Wagons ..... materially advanced Plows ...... materially advanced Wire fence ......materially advanced of this table delicacy until it has reached a figure that threatens to put it out of the reach of the poor altogether. It has been Soap Takes a Jump. advanced in price with such a steady and

On some of these articles the prices have regular movement that before long none but been advanced in anticipation of a trust the rich will be able to keep it on their being formed to control them. This is true tables. The poor will have to go back to in the case of soap. The soap factories are pure butter or eat dry bread if the price goes

not yet in a trust and price of soap has gone much higher. up. One grocer yesterday offered to buy Other Articles Boosted.

some soap of a brand he had been buying for years and he offered a price in advance People who sustain life by eating in res taurants may be interested to know that the of any he had ever paid for it. His offer proposed Pie trust never was formed. All was declined for the reason that the factory the pies in the restaurants, whether made in making the scap did not wish to be comfactories, or foundries or by hand, are not pelled to fill any order at the price after the made by a trust. The prices of these comtrust had got control and was able to do modifies, therefore, have not been changed what it would with quotations. recently. It is estimated by grocers that the ordinary

All sorts of canned goods have advanced bars of soap that have been sold for domesin price, but the reason for it is said to be tic use at four cents will be advanced in the increased price of the cans. Thus the great American Tinplate trust, with its cap-Vinegar is another article of common de ital of \$50,000,000, is making itself felt in mand that has been advanced in price, the homes of those who eat canned tomatoes though the trust that is to take in the vineand other modest food articles that are sold gar plants has not been completed. in cans. It is usual that when a trust begins bush

The recently formed Leather trust, which ness it reduces prices. This is the case with controls the product of soft leather-the sort bread. At the present time the trust that used in making the upper of shoes-has makes loaves has cut prices to such a figur shoved up the selling price of its commedithat the independent bakers are fearful they ties also. The advance has been of such considerable proportions that the makers of

"When the bread trust has cleaned up its

have been taken into a trust. All kinds of all turned to use and benzine and gasoline ministry, to grant autonomy to Bohemia made from petroleum, that were once The natural ability of Irishmen for ruling liver plasters and mustard plasters-have wasted, are now sold for more than kero- was strikingly recognized at the time of the been advanced in price. In most of the sene, which formerly was the only product American war of independence, when the of petroleum. There are at least thirty other | French acted as allies of the new republic, by-products of petroleum that turn profits. The officers of the Irish brigade unter Lato the Standard Oil company. There are fayette, whose regiments engaged in the continents, candles and other articles made campaign, were appointed governors of the of stuff that was once thrown away at the West Indian islands, which they had prooff refineries. There are other oil companies viously conquered. O'Down became govin existence and they flourish in spite of the ernor of Granada, Dillon of St. Christopher enormous advantage enjoyed by their com- and Fitzmaurice of St. Eustache. The adpetitor, the Standard, in the way of trans- ministration of these governors was equally portation rebates. Certain railroads have praised by the English, French and Amerifixed rates for these other companies and can governments. Of all countries the United States is that the Standard forced the roads to give it re-

> bates from those figures.' IRISHMEN IN GOVERNMENT.

Review of Their Share in the Public

referred to: for on the continent of Europe Life of the World, the Irishmen who have distinguished them-"Irishmen are on their trial." This is selves belong, for the most part, to the phrase which has been constantly on the aristocracy, but in the republic of the west it is the masses, not the classes, who ad-Dublin Irish Independent. The opinion has minister public affairs, and the rank and been called forth by the inauguration of Ale have acquitted themselves of the responsibility as creditably as have the no-

system has been described as "an experiment," "a leap in the dark," of which none

Let us take a few typical examples o XVI to embark his regiment to join the American forces to the present day, when President McKinley, the grandnephew of the Ulster '38 man, sits in the White House, of the national character, the character first Irishmen have been foremost in the civil and exemplified in the ancient Brehon laws, one military affairs of the great republic. of the wisest, justest, and most elaborate code of laws drawn up in any age or coun try, the character which again asserted it self in 1782, the era of Irish legislative in trative and legislative work throughout the dependence, when, in the words of Grattan empire is greatly in excess of their numbers public prosperity so crowded on the heel of the statute that the powers of nature

and influence as citizens of the same empire. By sheer force of merit and talent they have seemed to stand at the right hand of Par forced their way to the front. The figures liament. Spain, France and Austria are the three of the colonial governors and premiers are perhaps more prosale than those of the concountries in which Irishmen have chiefly attained renown, both as soldiers and statestiuental statesmen. Carving out the careers men but their footprints may also be of new countries in the backwoods of Canada traced in the camps and senates of Russia or the bush of Australia may not be such and Holland, Bavaria, Portugal and Poland. dazzling work as presiding over the destinies From the flight of the earls down to the of the old world powers, but the task may present day the names of Irishmen have been prove a more solid and enduring one when ntwined with the fortunes of Spain. the history of the future comes to be writ-O'Donel, dictator at Madrid; O'Reilly, amten bassador from Spain to the court of Louis

haps the foremost. O'Donel, duke of Tetuan,

is one of the most influential grandees of

ministrative genius the late prime minister

The governing trishman is as active in Australia at present as in the early days of Portugal to the same court: D'Sullivan. the colony, Byrnes, O'Laughlin and O'grandee of Spain; O'Reilly, Kavanagh and Shaughnessy being some of the leading Nugent, Austrian marshals; Lacy and names.

This glance at the careers of a few governing Irishmen may serve to remind some onlookers of the high traditions of the race. The O'Donels of Spain, the Taafes of Aus-That Irishmen will act up to their traditions tria and the MacMahons of France are perin future there is no reason to doubt.

#### The Fox and the Crow.

Detroit Journal: Once upon a time a Fox observed a Crow sitting upon the branch of Spain, a position which he and his ancestors have gained in recognition of valuable services rendered to the state. The career of the a tree and holding a piece of cheese in his Irish-Austrian Taafes is no less illustrious. beak

"Beautiful bird!" exclaimed the Fox. During the seventeenth and eighteenth cen-"What a lovely voice you must have!" turies their names have been blazoned on "Go on, you are trying to get my mind the roll of imperial Austria. Nicholas Taafe off the money question." protested the Crow, dropping the cheese, with which the Fox at field marshal, who in 1738 won the famous victory of Belgrade over the Turks, and once made off.

whose son succeeded him in turn to the post This fable teaches the unwisdom of dragof chamberlain to the emperor, is a pic ging politics into everything. turesque figure, but as an example of ad-

#### Reduced.

Detroit Journal: "I am reduced from affluence to beggary!" he faltered. Count Francis Taafe is the most notable. He is recognized as one of the ablest of Aus-In as few words as possible she broke tria's statesmen and it is a significant fact engagement.

that his policy has always trended in the di-"I wish to show," she observed, haughtrection of extending powers of self governily, "that women, contrary to general re-port, do not necessarily care for things just ment to the various nationalities composing the empire. He is a federalist. In 1870, the because they are reduced!' year in which Isaac Butt started his home Without a plaint, he took his conge, and,

rule movement, Count Taafe recommended | en passant, his umbrella, there being no the Austrian emperor, as a member of his other in the hatrack.



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in which the Irish element is the most

prominent in public life. For the purposes

of our argument it, perhaps, affords a bet-

ter illustration than do the countries above

From the time when Dillon of the Irish

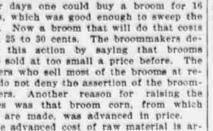
rigade eagerly demanded leave of Louis

The proportion of Irishmen occupying the

post of governor of British colonies and de-

endencies or engaged in other adminis-

bility of their country elsewhere.



prices was that broom corn, from which

lire and costs 14,000,000 lire a year, a profit which consumers are fleeced instead of benefited by trusts is shown in the facts follow-Trusts have multiplied so fast that nearly price of live cattle.

nual income of \$1,500,000 and an annual out- the prices of which have been advanced re-The most important item in the way of Herewith is submitted a list of some of ceed \$100,000,000, a larger sum than has In general the prices are those quoted yes-

Washane, was an outcast and a villain. No longer did he refer to Susan, Matained for the people in general. The French tilda, Jennie, Carrie and Mary as patterns postoffice department, of which the Paris and I guess I won't suit. So long." office is only a subordinate branch, costs in the boy went out whistling "Break the for all future house-wives to copy; what were they as compared with her to whom a year, the revenues from telegraphs inthe sainted Douglas had bowed in allegiance cluded, 170,000,000 francs, or \$34,000,000. The before? His voice took on a humbler carevenues of postal receipts, telephones and dence when he spoke to or of his Lucia. telegraphs were 230,000,000 francs in 1898,

His? How had he ever dared to woo this or a total of \$46,000,000, showing a net profit piece of perfection-how had he been so to the government from these agencies of favored to win her? communication of \$12,000,000. As the French He referred to his own unworthiness one postoffice is maintained as a source of ha day to a neighbor lately moved into the tional revenue and not as a means of public

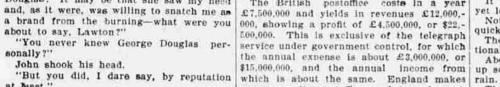
town, a man who years before had lived in convenience, it can be better understood, Green Meadows. perhaps, why it is that the government "As I think of her former partner I should exact the largest possible amount of wonder what she saw in me that should labor for the least pay among its employes lead her to renounce the name of George in Paris as elsewhere.

Douglas? It may be that she saw my need The British postoffice costs in a year about to say, Lawton?" sonally ?"

John shook his head.

at least.

Mr. Lawton grinned.



money on its postoffice, and its telegraph system is self-supporting-no more.

"I did." he said with a silent mirthful The annual revenues from the German chuckle. "And so you are the man that mar- postoffice department, known as reichpostried Lucia Douglas. A good woman, she, gobiet, are 340,000,000 marks in a year, or and a clever one. But George Douglas- \$68,000,000, and the annual expenses are 300,well, yes, I knew him, too-lots of folks did 000,000 marks a year, or \$60,000,000, showing community, yet he doesn't care to have the -the grog shop keepers best of all. Thought a profit of \$8,000,000 a year, which is much assessor over-rate him.

**Pointed** Paragraphs

Chicago News: A ball dress is cut low but the bill for it comes high. Ungratefulness is one of the meanest raits of humanity

Probably the easiest way to make trouble s to look for it Poverty must be a crin punishable by hard labor. a crime-at least it is In the matrimonial game a base bal player isn't always a good catch.

It is much easier to form a new habit than it is to re-form an old one. It is said that every man has his price, yet lots of men give themselves away. Nothing ruins a woman's complexion nucker than marrying a man to reform him. There is nothing in the world more sensational than the plain unvarnished truth. About the time a man gets ready to lay

up something for a rainy day it begins to The optimist derives much pleasure from the thoughts of trouble that do not trouble him.

Neighbors will never become bosom friends as long as they look into each others' back Ferds. A man naturally likes to stand high in his

She-If you dare hug me, I'll call my big sister. He-Don't do it. One at a time, you know.

opponents," said a restaurant keeper, "I ex pect to see the price of bread go up.' Vinegar and soan however, have been exceptions to the rule.

will be driven out of business.

price to seven cents.

A laundry trust is in process of formation and it uses the argument of the ice trustthat it will save a great deal in operation of wear.

the business, and, therefore, do laundry work at less prices. In the prospectus of the trust it shows that one-third of the operating cost will be saved when the trust gets hold of the plants. It also promises to reduce prices 20 per cent to customers. One laundryman said his firm had been offered more than three times what the plant was worth. as control of the plant was necessary in or-

7 to 9 cents a pound. der to make a success of the proposed trust. That trusts have not been overlooking any opportunities one would probably conclude on learning that chewing gum is now ontrolled by one of these organizations. One may now find the stock of the chewing the same thing. gum trust listed among the "new indusrials," and speculate or invest in it as a "good thing," just as he would in federal

steel or American tinplate stocks. The price of raisins has been advanced by the growers, who do not admit they are in a trust, but rather in an association. One of the things this association did recently was to gather up all of the inferior quality of raisins in the market and sell them to distilleries. In that way they cleared the market of surplus stock, and then boosted the price to nearly double what it was before.

### Advance in Wall Paper.

Something like a sweeping change in prices was made in the wall paper business when the output of the wall paper mills got into the hands of a trust. It used to be that one could buy wall paper at such low prices that no one need to live in an unpapered room. The trust sent prices bouncing up. In some cases the selling figures were doubled. The result was, that instead of a housewife being able this spring to have her be rooms repapered for \$10 each, she was compelled to pay no less than \$14 to \$16 for the embellishment. The cost of the paperhangers' labor is counted into that price at the same figure it was the year before. The price of paper being doubled makes the difference. The trust got the price it wanted. The wageworker who hung the paper was not able to get in on the upward tendency of things.

The thrifty conduct of the wall paper trust had the effect of causing many flat dwellers to forego paper on the walls of their rooms and resort to paint and kalsomine. This expedient as a mural decoration has therefore become popular, and housewives are apparently contented with it.

The banana trust is a New Orleans concern. It has control of the importation of bananas. It has raised the price of them all the way from 25 cents to 75 cents a bunch. The dealer who was able to buy a bunch of bananas last year for \$1 could sell them as low as 5 cents a dozen. When he has to pay \$1.75 a bunch he is forced to raise the price to 10 cents, and sometimes to 20 cents a dozen.

Many of the small dealers in fruit have quit handling bananas. When the price was as low as 5 cents a dozen many poor people were able to supply their tables with bananas, which formed not only a sort of luxury, but a substantial and cheap addition to an otherwise meager meal.

street vender who had the habit of wandering into alleys and side streets and waking up late sleepers in an endeavor to dispose of his cartload of bananas, has been forced cut of business. He cannot sell cheap enough to find customers. It is only

when the market is glutted that he finds an opportunity to get back into business, but then it is only for a few days. In the drug business the trusts have not made much headway. /The only articles that

have been advanced in prices, according to the admission of the retail druggists, are plasters of various kinds. The factories that furnish aching humanity with plasters | Specific Company, Atlanta, Georgia.

taint upon countless innocent ones. Some years ago I was inoculated with poison by a nurse who infected my babe with blood taint. The little one was unequal to the struggle, and its life was yielded up to the fearful poison. For sits long years I suf-fered untoid misery. I was covered with sores and ulers from head to foot, and no language can express my feelings of wee during those long years. I bad the best medical treatment. Sev-eral physicians succes

reduced. He says:

medical treatment. Sev-eral physicians successively treated me, but fill to no purpose. The mer-oury and potash seemed to add fuel to the awful flame which was devouring me. I was advised by friends who had seen wonderful cures made by it, to try Swift's Specific. We got two bottles, and I felt hope again revive in my breast-hope for health and happiness again. I improved from the start, and a com-plete and perfect cure was the result. S. S. is the only blood remedy which reaches des-perate cases. Montgomery, Ala. Of the many blood remedies, S. S. S.

The Of the many blood remedies, S. S. S. is the only one which can reach deepseated, violent cases. It never fails to cure perfectly and permanently the most desperate cases which are beyond the reach of other remedies.