#### THE ORRIS ROOT TRADE.

Wafemiliar Facts About a Pamiliar Article of Commerce the World Over.

The British vice consul at Leghorn, in his report on his district for the past year, mentions a curious induatry in which orris root plays the chief part, says the London Times. This is the production of beads made from the root, with a fine hole through the center. The beads are friof many sizes, the amallest being about that of a marble. Not many years ago about 20,000,000 of these were exported each year, but now the export has failen to 4,000,000. It imprears that there was once a med-Ical theory that the best means of scuring scrofula and certain diseases sof the blood was to keep an open ewound in the body of the sufferer and these orris root beads were inserted into the wound for this purspose. It is still possible to buy at Italian medical instrument makers the special wire-grated bandage prepared for the arm in this process. Orris was probably used in this way because of its tendency to dilate in any liquid substance. The practice undoubtedly still prevails, though imedical science has long condemned idt. A factory for making these beads has recently been established in Paris, and the greater part of the Leghorn export goes to Lyons, while part goes to Frankfort. The use of the beads is dying out in Italy, but it is not uncommon to meet with people who have been treated in this way. Another article made from orris root is the dentarnolo, or finger. which is designed to take the place of the old-fashioned infants' coral and assist in teething. The juice, of which a small amount is absorbed in sucking, is said to be an excellent digestive. This is a modern and a growing industry, and apparently reached Italy from Germany. Now half a million of these fingers are sent from Leghorn to Germany and Austria every year. Orris root grains, colored in blue, red. yellow, green and other colors, are exported to the same countries, where they are used to throw on fires to give an agreeable edor to saloons and entrance halls, while in the form of tiny chips tha proof is chewed, mostly by men serve ants, to remove the smell of tobacco. garlic and the like. It may be mentioned that samples of these various articles made from orris root have them sent home by the vice consul. and have been transferred by the foreign office to the Association of Chambers of Commerce.

#### SWINDLERS HAVE NEW GAME. Good Profit in Being a Bogns Reistive of Unidentified Dead in Hospitals.

"There's all sorts of ways of making a living, and I've seen many queer things in this line," said an attache of the county hospital, reports the Chieago Inter Ocean, "but the strangest of all is that of being a 'fake relative.' Don't know what that is, hey? Well. peither did I until I came here, but it's a great graft all the same, and it gets the money.

"We are continually receiving at the morgue here the bodies of unidentified men and women. Death is frequently the result of suicide or secident. In either case the newspapers print 6 pretty fair description of the remains, which is furnished by the morgue authorities in the hope that it may bring in some relative to identify the body. and thus save the county expense. Then the fake relatives get in their work. There is a lot of these harpies, but it is seldom they interfere with one another. They seem to recognize the right of preemption, and the first one on the scene is usually left free to work the claim. The 'fake relative' has studied the newspaper description so well that be can give a reasonably good word picture of the appearance of the dead person. He asserts that the body is that of a cousin, or something of that sort, and leaves with the avowed intention of making arrangements for a funeral as soon as the inquest is over.

"A day or so later a genuine relative shows up, and the fakir makes it his business to be near at hand. He conkinces the genuine mourner that he is and distant cousin, and announces his intention of defraving all the expenses of the funeral, which is welcome news . - to the real relative. But he is a little Thort to-day, having given all his spare currency to the undertaker as a guarantee payment, and if the mourner would like to chip in five or ten dollars for flowers or carriages, why, it would be acceptable. Glad to get out of the heave tax incidental to burial, the real relative generally unbelts, and the fakir disappears for a day or two, until the coast is clear for another operastion of the same kind.

"Why don't the hospital authorities break up the practice? Well, there's lots of reasons. One is that those who are victimized rarely make complaint."

## Our Dumb Priends.

We shall respect ourselves none the less if we find animals are nearer to us intellectually than is generally supposed. About 100 smart men have "been credited with the saving: "The more I see of men the better I like dogs." There is this much truth in the saying, that there are some men in this world whom animals would probably be ashamed to recognize as equals. Let us wait on the scientists. They may teach us much that will be heipful.-Philadelphia Inquirer.

## Sentiment and Discretion.

Billy Did she secept you? Sar Jack-Well, she said she'd make a memorandum of my proposal and eousider it when the weather gets faworable for mental effort. Detroit Free Press.

#### THEORY FAILED TO WORK.

An Instance Which Illustrates a Very Cimmen Error of Judgment.

"I don't know so much about this theory that you can come close to felling a man's occupation by his manners and appearance," said a Washingtonian who recently returned from the Pan-American exposition, relates the Star. "Stopping at the same hotel with me in Buffalo, and with rooms right across the way from me, were three Chicago newspaper men. The proprietor of the hotel introduced me to them a couple of days after I registered, and we went around a good deal together.

They were on their vacation. "One of them was quite a young chap, not more than 25, I should say -a big, brawny, well-dressed lad who looked a good deal like a typical collegian and a football player, at that. He was a clever, skylarkish young fellow, with a boisterous laugh, and he was always playing jokes on his two companions. Far be it from me to knock, but the number and size of the high balls that boy could scramble outside of were sure a caution to locusts. They never seemed to have any effect upon him, and he was always good-natured and jolly and entertain-

Another of the three was a slightly undersized man of 35 or so, rather thin and dyspeptic looking, who didn't have a great deal to say, and who seemed so diffident with women folks that he almost collapsed when the four of us were presented to a jolly lot of young women on the grounds. This man dressed in different suits of modest black all the time, with a snip of a black bow tie and a warm-looking black hat. He always spoke in a low tone, and although he was perfectly good-natured and agreeable and quite obviously a man of parts and character, he kept under cover about as much

as any man I ever met up with. "The third of the party of newspaper men was a stout, very precise man of 40-a man of such natural dignity that the sense of it would impress you at once. He was exceedingly well dressed at all times, and old-maidish in his habits, wherefore he was considerably guyed by the others. The excellence of the language he employed even when conversing on ordinary topics struck me very soon after I met him. He never permitted himself to fall into slipshod methods of expressing himself, and, though his talk was by no means stilled, it was almost oldfashioned in its undeviating allegiance to a conversational standard other than that of our day.

"Well, one night, a couple of weeks after I met up with the three, we wound up the night with a little game of draw in my room. After the last jackpot, and when we were doing a bit of desultory talking before turning in. I got to asking them a few questions about newspapers and the mak ing of them. This was a subject that had always interested me considerably, though I didn't know much about it. Finally I put them a few questions as to the personnel of a metro-

politan newspaper. " For example, said I, addressing the big, loud-laughing lad who understood the difficult art of punishing high balls without letting them get away with him, 'what do you do on the

'Sky-pilot,' he replied, unconcernedly. Religious editor, that is to say. And I have charge of the morgue-the biographical department, you under-

"This struck me as being laughable. but the others didn't see anything particularly funny in it, so I went on to the sedate, dyspeptic-looking little man, who always dressed in black and curled up so awfully when he was introduced to a woman.

" 'And what is your stunt on your paper?' I asked him.

"Racing man," he replied. "Cover the tracks and edit the racing department in general.

"They didn't seem to see anything incongruous in this, either, and so I inquired of the third man, who was so old-maidish in his habits and so absolutely precise in his manner of using the king's English, what was his spe-

"'Oh, I write the stories of the streets-slang stories? he answered

"And there you are. Each of these men had been following his special line of work for years, and none of them had the stamp of his specialty in his appearance or manners.

"I don't accept that tell-them-bytheir-looks theory any more."

Spinal Curvature, Examination of 21,000 college students in the United States shows that curvature of the spine affects one out of 18 noteworthy students, while among those who are athletic rather than studious the proportion is only one in sixty. More than five per cent. of applicants for examination for admission to college were found affected by scoliosis, presumably from too constant addiction to the stooping posture while studying. Growth of this dangerous disease requires checking, if learning is not to develop a large class of deformed and unhealthful Americans.-Chicago Chronicle.

## Song of the Turk.

Turks are very fond of singing, and boys or men with good voices are eagerly sought after to make up water parties. Their songs, however, are not pleasing to European ears. The singer leans his jaw on his hand, as if he had a toothache, and then emits a geries of yells which are impossible to convert into words, but which are supposed to form songs, nearly every word being followed by the word "Aman." Sometimes the whole song consists of long drawn out "Amans." -- London Telegraph.

#### PUNGENT PARAGRAPHS.

Merchant-"I want this ad. where everyone will see it." Solicitor-"We charge higher rates for space on the baseball page."-Baltimore World.

"I understand you made money in that stock deal." "Yes, I came out on top." "How did you manage it?" "Got in on the ground floor."-Philadelphia Press.

Sunday School Teacher - "Now, Tommy, you may give your conception of 'the future state.'" Tommy -"Please, ma'am, it's a territory."-Philadelphia Record.

"Billinger is a little too captious." "What's the matter with him?" "He prayed for rain and then grumbled because the water wasn't iced."-Cleveland Plain Dealer.

Mrs. Y .- "Before we were married, you used to swear that you loved me." Mr. Y.-"Well?" Mrs. Y.-"Er -well-1-- think it's time you stopped swearing."-Philadelphia Bulletin.

"I don't understand your radical change of views. When you were studying for the ministry you were pronounced against eternal punishment." "Yes, but I wasn't married then."-Denver Times. First Policeman-"Why is the

street so blocked? Nobody told me about this procession. What is it?" Second Policeman-"It's the report" ers of the city going to see a naval officer who won't talk."-Boston Transcript.

A Philosopher .- Wife-"There's a burglar down in the cellar, Henry." Husband-Well, my dear, we ought to be thankful that we are upstairs." Wife-"But he'll come up here." Husband-"Then we'll go down in the cellar, my dear. Surely a tenroom house ought to be big enough to hold three people without crowding."-Boston Traveler.

# DISBANDING A GREAT ARMY.

Retirement of United States Troops That Served in the Philippine Solando.

An important event in the history of the United States was the sailing from Manila of the transport Kilpatrick with the 33 officers and the 1,013 men of the Firty-third regiment, United States volunteer infantry, is time to enable the war department to carry out the provisions of the law which called for the mustering out of all volunteer troops by June 30, 1901. This was the last regiment to be disbanded, says the Philadelphia Saturday Evening Post.

By act of March 2, 1899, the army was reorganized on the basis of 65,000 enlisted men and 35,000 volunteers, volunteer service being for a term of two years and four months, or until July 1, 1901. There was no trouble in getting enough men. The enlistments showed what has been claimed by our sanest patriots, that when the nation needs help it can obtain all it wants for the asking. The American soldier is the best treated, the best paid, the best fed of any fighters the world has ever known. The consequence is a higher standard of intelligence, conduct and efficiency than in any other army. Whatever may be the fearwof other peoples the United States is able to take care of itself, for it has been calculated by political economists that if necessity should arise this country could arm, equip and keep in the field 10,000,000 soldiers.

The volunteer force of 35,000, which is now no more, was nearly 10,000 larger than the whole American army before the outbreak of the war with Spain, and many of the men have enlisted in the regular establishment and will continue to serve their country for years to come. It is decidedly dangerous to make comparisons between volunteers and regulars, but there is glory enough for all. This was illustrated in the operations against Santiago from June 2 to July 17, 1898, for it was only three years ago when our men of the Fifth corps were winning the fight with Spain. The corps were 869 officers and 17,349 men, and the casualties in all the engagements numbered 1.688, of which 1.417 were among the 13,277 regulars and 271 among the 4,941 volunteers present for duty.

To Serve Watermelon. Some hostesses are serving watermelon this season in fanciful designs. The melons have been on ice for several days, and are cut lengthwise in deep scallops or points, so that each section for a person looks like a small cance. When the two halves have been deeply notched and placed side by side on a large hand-painted platter, with crushed ice filling the center. the melons have the appearance of huge flowers. Some young hosts are making a specialty (to please their wives) of ingeniously cutting the watermelons to represent the petals of orchids and various flowers. The hostess has in that event had her table decorations of orchids or the blooms decided upon. Some persons make a good-sized incision in a large-watermelon and pour therein a bottle of champagne. After the melon has been again on the ice for three hours the champagne is drained off and the flavor of the melon is delicious.—Cincinnati Enquirer.

Preserved String Beans, The best time to do up string beans is in the latter part of October. Select young string beans, and, after freeing them of strings, wash and place them in a kettle of boiling water; cook five minutes; drain and fill the beans in glass jars. Then add to four quarts of boiling water two ounces of ralt, and fill the jars to overflowing with this. Close and boil them in a kettie of water 25 minutes; take out the jars, open each one a minute; close quickly; return them to the kettle and cook 40 minutes longer.-Ledger

#### AMATEUR DETECTIVE

Often Keeps Careful Watch on Mes Innocent of Wrong Doing.

Every More of Suspected Persons Under Close Serutiny for Months at a Time-Secrets of the · Profession.

Hundreds of Chicago people who have committed no crime, who pay their debts, and against whom no complaint can be made, are tracked wherever they go by the numerous tribes of amateur detectives whose existence in Chicago just now is one of the marvels of the police department, says the Tribune.

By the city police and by regular priwate detective agencies these men and women who do the shadowing are known as "kids." This does not mean that they are young. Many of them have white hair and carn their daily bread at desks in offices. Their detective work is done after office hours and is merely an additional way of earning a living. There are so many of them that the conclusion that more shadowing is being done now than ever before since 1893 is a reasonable

Not since 1893, when the news of impending crashes in the business world on account of the panic made shadowing a common thing, have the police known of so many cases in which innocent persons are continually under the eye of other persons who are not legalized officers and who are hired simply because they are not.

A shadow, in police parlance, is a man or a woman who follows a subject wherever that subject goes, and who makes regular reports to a third person, for which reports that third

person pays. When a crime has been committed and many persons are under suspicion the detectives both in the city department and in private agencies who may be interested in the case follow these suspected persons. They note with whom they talk, and how long, where they go to dine and with whom, whether they visit banks or crubs or, parties, whether railroad stations are on their calling list, and whether they seem to be on intimate terms with

gemorse. Many times the wrong persons are shadowed. In such cases the subjects, ast they are called, never know that their every move has been under scrutiny perhaps for months. Again, the subjects may reveal something that results in their arrest. Even then the shadow keeps in the background.

Rather, he tries to keep in the background. If he always succeeded there would be no field for "kids," or amateur, shadows.

But the city police come to be known quite generally, and with them the trained operatives of the private agencies. The necessity for adequate knowledge about people continued, and there seemed to be little chance of obtaining it. The fact that the shadows were known militated greatly against their usefulness.

Then the idea occurred to some detectives to employ amateurs. It was demanded, first of all, that these amareurs should be men and women of irreproachable caution. For a shadow to talk is worse than treason. Next to silence, alerthess was placed, and then faithfulness. It seems strange that faithfulness should come last, but it is logical. A faithful dummy would be of no use, while an alert man or woman who can keep silent can be paid enough money to make them faithful.

They were obtained in the shops, in offices, in positions of more or less publie character.

Saleswomen, many of them, make good money after hours by tracing people in whom they have no interest, on behalf of people in whom they have no more. Clerks also make good material for amateur shadows.

As soon as a shadow is approached by a private detective or by a friend in the service of some client he or she is told all that the agent knows about the walk and conversation of the subject or person to be shadowed.

Then the "kid" is left to his own discretion. The more time he spends with the subject the better the service be is rendering. He often finds it necessary 40 go to church with the subject, and to follow him or her on shopping expeditions, to the theater, and to the summer gardens.

Everything that happens is noted and the notes are turned over to the person who pays for the work.

The usual charge by a private detective agency is from six to ten dollars a day with expenses. The "kids" sometimes work for less than this. They always insist upon their expense money. Most of them try to maintain the scale of prices charged by the detective agencies.

## Ginger Sherbet.

Ginger sherbet is a good emergency dessert to the suburban housekeeper. as its foundation can always be kept on hand. Cut fine one-fourth of a pound of Canton ginger, add one quart of water and one cupful of sugar, and boil 15 minutes. When cold, add half a cupful of orange juice and one-third of a cupful of lemon juice, strain and freeze, using in packing the freezer three portions of ice to one of salt .-N. Y. Post.

## To Remove Iron Rust.

Hold the spot over a bowl of water to which a little ammonia has been added, and apply, with a glass rod or a small piece of wood, 18 per cent. muriatic acid. The instant the stain disappears immerse the spot in the water, thereby preventing the acid from injuring the texture of the cloth .- Detroit Free Press.

#### HAZARDOUS OCCUPATIONS. \*

An Official Tells Why Nen from the Country Flock to the Antironds for Employment.

"There is a fearination about 'railroading' which makes the waiting list of applicants a long one, and verifies the known fact that where one man is killed there are a dozen others eager for his place," said a railroad official to a Washington Star reporter the other morning.

"Our men are employed by the different division superintendents. On our road I should say that for every vacancy there are ten applicants on the list, to say nothing of those who would be glad to accept the place if they knew of it or it were offered to them. I am not referring to clerical positions, but to those of trainmen.

"There are several considerations which prompt men to so readily accept positions on railroads which are hazardous to life and health. Men must have employment. Most of our employes are married men, and the necessity to provide food and shelter for the family will cause men to take places they know to be dangerous, and which they otherwise would de-

"But the great, main reason why railroads have so many applications for these places is because their lines. penetrate the rural districts, and pass through small cities and towns. Sixty dollars a month on a railroad beats \$16 a month as a farm haad, even if every daily run may be 'the last.' The trainman, whether a conductor or a brakeman, in his neat blue uniform, is a comparatively big man to this class of workers, and also to the men who are in a small way in the towns and villages. When 'Jake gets on the railroad' he is somebody.

"The worker in the fields sees the train fly by day after day, and he catches a momentary glimpse of the trainmen, sitting or standing in the open door of the baggage car or passing from car to car. They are an object of envy to him. He feels the restraint of his own life. When the impulse becomes strong enough he goes to town, sees the division superintendent, gets on the eligible list, in due time becomes enrolled as a brakeman on a freight, and his career as a 'railroad man' has begun.

"On our road, and the same policy holds good on most roads, we make it a point to give preference to men who live along its line, rather than a man who comes from another state. The reason is obvious. The resident is identified with his locality and its people. It is to his interest and the interest of his people to help the road all they can. He becomes a part of the system for his particular division. If he is a married man, so much the better. Married men are no better workers than unmarried men, but they are inclined steadier, and it is steadiness and matter-of-fact attention to business that makes a man of service to his road, of value to both himself and his company, and also to the traveling pub-

"While accidents are frequent along the line of a road, and especially in what are known as railroad towns, among the employes they in nowise, as far as we can judge, influence other men from taking the places of the dead and the maimed or of impelling old men to get our of the service. The life of a trainman is the last I would adopt, and I am an official of the road, as I have a personal dread of having my flesh erushed between iron. A railroad man, however, appears to look upon his calling as does a soldier in the regular army-he takes his chances that perhaps he will be the lucky one who will escape, and if he is killed, well, a man can die but once. If he is injured he can go to the railroad hospital. If he can be patched up sufficiently he goes back to his old place; if not, we endeavor to find a suitable place for him-a flagman, bridge tender or the like-and if this can't be done he is obliged to take his chances with the rest of the cripples in the world to get along."

## . Quality Folks.

Since bacteriologists have attribnted the dissemination of yellow fever in Cuba, and of the deadly malaria in Italy, to the mosquito, that creature has emerged from the general host of insects into a place of individual importance...

For other reasons than these, however, an old Cornish woman lately pronounced upon the mosquito's aristocracy. She had asked her parish priest to read to her a letter from her son in Brazil. The writer's orthoraphy was doubtful, but the vicar did his best to read phonetically.

"I cannot tell you how the muskitties torment me. They pursue me everywhere-even down the chim-The fond mother's eyes grew large

with mingled pride and amazement. "Ezekiel must be rare handsome," she said, "for the maidens to be after him. And I reckon the Miss Kitties is quality folks, too!"-Youth's Companion.

#### The Reason. Mr. Frontpew-I am glad you belong

to our church choir, my dear; it is such an orderly organization; I never see you whispering to one another during services. Mrs. Frontpew-No, none of us are

on speaking terms. Ohio State Jour-Not Built That Way. Tess-Miss Skrawnay is going to the

mountains this year, as usual, I believe. Jess-Yes, I believe she can't bare

to go to a watering place.-Philadelphia Press.

#### NEW CORSET FOR STOUT MEN.

It Came Into Yogue Contemporand ously and so a Result of the Shirtwalet.

MI one truthfully say that I was never so cool or so comfortable as I have been since I wore a corset," said the fat man, sipping a seltzer lemonade through a straw, relates the New York Sun. "I always had am idea that a man who wore a corset did so through foolishness or a desire for

a small waist. Look at me!" He was the last man in the world that one would associate with cornets, being very stout, although well groomed and with an erectness from the waist up that is not always one of a fat man's

characteristics. "The way I got to wear one of the things," he said, "was when I noticed ! Tonwate going round in his shirt waist. First I made fun of him and then I began to notice that his shirt! didn't set in wrinkles, damp and unpleasant looking, but that it had a taut look, and that puzzled me, for Tonwate weighs more than L.

"Finally I asked him about it and then he told me of a Twenty-third; street corset maker who had invented. a corset girdle for fat men just as soon as the shirt-waist fud came out last? year. She reasoned right away that fat men would be debarred from the new idea, for the trouble with a fat man is that his flesh creases and layers about his waist, and this doesn't

look pretty in a shirt waist. "This woman got up a flexible lightweight belt with a few good, stiff bones over the hips, and the result was a neat-looking waist, the body not seeming to come in contact with the outer lines. It was the greatest thing ever invented, and I ordered several of them, and I wouldn't be without one

The inventive cornet maker is selling dozens of these girdles to stout men, and is shipping them in quantities to the summer resorts where men ride horseback and play golf without coats. "I call them girdles," she explained, "because the idea of a cornet worn by a man is associated with dudes and military dandies who sometimes wear shape stays to give them a graceful waist line.

"My girdles are simply to hold in the surplus flesh about the waist so hat it dowen't come in visible contact with the outer garment. It is this principle which causes a woman in a shirt waist to look cool. But when men went in for the shirt waist in their endeavor to look as cool as the shirt-waist girl they forgot the fact that a woman's body is carefully girded in beneath her waist. For thin men it was not so difficult, but for fat mea the shirt waist was impossible.

"I thought it all out one day when a very stout man in a shirt waist came. into a car. He looked so very unpleasant and warm that I began to realize that a corset was in reality a cool garment and then I quickly evolved the notion of the girdle. - it took immediate hold when I displayed one in my shop window with a picture showing the use for which, it was inter .....

"While the shirt waist for men has not proved very popular in the city. it is the general rule in the country. Men ride and row and drive and plaggolf and tennis in the loose waists of silk and flannel and linen. The diningroom and the drawing-room are the only places that are forbidden the summer man without a coat. And The uses of the girdle have been appreciated. The tailors advocate them now, as their use does away with beltaor suspenders. The trousers are cutso that they set over the girdle in milmary fashion."

# STUDY WHAT YOU AFFECT.

A Word of Idvice to Purents Regard ing the Education of Children.

Scientists now acknowledge that education has most effect upon mediocre minds. It can do a great deal with them, less for those that are defective and still less for those highly endowed; for talented persons, even though they may receive all the usual courses of intellectual training, usually educate themselves. They gain their most valuable education through the exercise of their strongest faculties. Work is their tutor and self-direction their college, says Florence Hull Winterburn, in Woman's Home Companion.

Parents and tutors need to have # care that their efforts to be kelpful to children do not interfere with the natural development of their faculties. This is sometimes done through not recognizing their special abilities, quite frequently from a wish to fix their destinies in accordance with some conventional standard. We should study the individuality of our child from his birth, so that we may avoid a wasteful employment of his energies in pursuits that are alien to his disposition and foreign to his needs.

Spiced Nut Cakes,

Cream half a cupful of butter with one cupful of sugar; add the yolks of two eggs, well beaten, and one cupful of milk. Sift 21/2 cupfuls of flour with one teaspoonful each of cloves, cinnamon and nutmeg, two teaspoonfuls of baking powder and half a teaspoonful of salt. Add to the other ingredients. and lastly add the stiffly beaten whites of eggs. Bake in small scallop pans or in gem pans .- Ladies' World, New York.

A Touching Appeal. "Hey, you feller, get off'n this train!" shouted the angry conductor

at the hoboem "W'y, certainly, boss-but, say, did you ever live in a boardin' house?" "Yes, an' what of it?"

"Nothin', 'ceptin' you might please pass the beets."-Denver Times.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS