A number of prophets have of late spreng up in Germany, and a feeling of superstition has arisen there which no efficialism has been competent to quell. The movement has taken place mainly in the south, such from all quarters come rumps of coming wars and the downfall of Germany, states the Lendon Mail.

It is difficult to say how the rumons have originated or who has started them, but they have become so general that the kaiser has actually been taking steps to try to represe the superstition of his people—steps which have been attended, naturally enough, with very small success, for superstition is not a thing that can be controlled by haw.

in the northern provinces folk are whispering the famous prophecy of the meak, Hennin, who, neveral centuries ago, announced that one day the Hobensellern dynasty would be restablished, but that the third emperor of this great family would come to a violent end and that the dynasty prould fall with him. The kaiser, it is used, dislikes to have Hennin's prophecy mentioned, and it is certain that the official papers have lately been publishing articles, in which pains are which points to the kaiser's violent and was unauthentic.

In Suchia itinerant singers go about ninging the prophecy of Stringebert, a new who is said to have had communion with spirite, and whose prophecies have until now come true. Germany-is at its greatest," said St. Ingebert, "the fall will come. I see rivers of blood in all the German valhere legs, and Cossack horses drinking in the waters of the Elbe and of the University of Warehurg has just returned from Italy with a probpecy of m woman called Rosa Columba, who died in 1837. She was an ignorant peasant woman of Taggia, a little village in the Rivers, but she correctly predicted the fall of Louis Philippe, the see defeat and exile of Charles Albert of Sardinia, the restoration of Pope Pins E. "by a Napoleon," the defeat of Austria and the reestablishment of the kingdom of Italy. Ross Columba

diers will put up their horses in the church adjoining the convent at Tagria.

Of course, many people will amile at these prophecies, and yet one cannot help remembering that France was overrun with supernatural stories dur-

ing the year which preceded the Fran-

blee German war.

predicted one thing more. She an-

remounced another Italian revolution,

and at the same time a great European

war, during which "the Russian sol-

Benan himself, who was not a superdititious man, wrote, it may be rememhaud: "Throughout the history of the
world, whenever great events have
been about to happen, vague rumors,
sometimes precise and nearly always
sometimes precise and nearly always
dangers with which they are threatened. I can but point out this mysterioun instinct, I cannot explain it." And
Germany, without trying to/explain, is
and vaguely uneasy.

THEY WANT SLOW SERVICE.

Restaurant Parties in New York Who Place a Premium on Slow Rervice.

That woman will make a kick before her order in filled," said a head
waiter at an uptown restaurant one
evening last week, pointing to a welldressed woman who sat with an elderfly man at one of the small tables in
the palm garden, according to the
Mew York Tribune.

"How do you know?" the guest

"Well, you see, she comes here to rubber,' and she came too early. The ionly way she can fill time is to find fault with what is being served. "We have lots of customers of that

kind. They dress up in their very best clothes and come here just before the theater crowd arrives. They come to see and to be seen, and care mighty little about what they have to eat.

time when they come early. An old trick is to get a table and then say:

We won't order yet—we're waiting for some one.

"'Some one' never comes, and finally the order for some raw oysters or a salad is given, and if we serve them quickly the waiter gets a small tip. If the waiter loafs and serves all the others first his tip is larger. They wibble and fuss over their little luncheon, and the man is the party usually smokes his cigar to the bitter end before the 'rubber party' breaks up.

"There. I told you that woman would kick. Do you see the club sandwich going back? It is probably too cold or too hot, but it's neither; it is simply too soon. The 'rubber guest' is a great find for the slow waiter; he is the only guest who puts a premium on slow service."

ervice."

"Ab, Miss Breeze," began the romantic young man, "I adore the beautiful. I am a lover of poetry. I am a—"

"Cuckoo!" interrupted a small voice in the clock. And then the romantic young man bit his tongue.—Chicago Daily News.

Cream 1½ cupfuls butter with the same of sugar, add three eggs, bent; 1½ cups milk, four cups flour, two cups currants, eitron, if liked, one-half tenspoonful mixed spices and one tenspoonful soda. Bake one hour.—Boston

# IS A STRONG NATION.

Japan a New Factor of Much Importance in World Adults.

But in Malout Savy and a Powerful Army — Sepething About the Great Warships of Rosent Construction.

. In view of the agreement entered Into between Great Britain and Japan, the "fighting strength" of our tries tal ally becomes a factor of considerable importance, says the London Chremisie. A new navel programme will probably be announced some time this year, but at present the Japanese navy consists of 8 battleships, ? armored cruisers, 3 secondclass cruisers, 2 third-class eruisers, S telpodo gualicata, about 140 torpede craft, and 1 torpedo depot ship. This list, according to the latest returns, does not include some small gruisers that are being built in Japan. The Japanese navy was organized entirely on the lines of the British navy. The following are the chief characteristics of the larger class of yesocle; Length, 400 feet, within breadth of 75 feet 6 inches, and main draught of 75 feet 6 inches; normel displacement, 15,200 tons; arma-ment, four 12-inch 46-ton guns placed in pairs on two barbettes situated forward and aft; 14 quick-firing 6-inch guns carried on the breadside, and 20 12-ponnder quick-fring guns. There are in these vessels four submerged terpedo discharges. The Harveyised armor-belt 226 feet long by 8 feet 6 inthes deep, the thickness of armor being I inches. On the barbettes the armor is 14 inches thick above the main duck, and I inches below in front. The ships are propelled by twin screws, the engines being of 15,000 indicated horse-power, supplied by Bellevue boilers, the contract speed is 18.5 knots. The coal capacity at mormal draught is 700 tens, but the bunkers are capable of holding 1,400 tons. The complement is 741 officers and men. Among the battleships is the Chen-Tuen, captured from China, which has a displacement of 7,400 tons, indicated horse-power 6,200; armement, four 12-inch (Krupp), four 6-inch quick-firing and eight light guns, as well as eight other guns and

knots. Of the armored cruisers the largest is the Asama, with a displacement of 9,750 tons, an indicated horse power of 19,000; armament. 4 8-inch quickfling, 14 6-inch (Amstrong), 5 torpedo tubes (four submerged), and speed 22.1 knots. Some of the cruisers. have a greater speed, like the Tokiwa, with 23 knots, others less, like the Takume, with 20 knots. Other cruisers and destroyers vary in displacement between 1,350 and 5,416 tons. They all carry quick-firing guns and the destroyers are said to have a maximum trial speed of 30 knots or others on the Clyde and some at Barrow and Elswick.

three torpedo tubes. Her speed is 14

Although Japan took England for a model in the building and manning of her navy, she went to Germany for the organization of her army. The military budget of 1901-2 provides for 18 divisions of the army, including the division of the guard, 26 infantry brigades, each of 2 3-battalion regiments, 17 regiments of cavalry (51 , squadrons), 19 regiments of artillery (114 field and muntain batteries), 13 battalions of pioneers, comprising 28 companies (to be increased to 39 companies), 13 battalions of train of 2 companies each and the railway and talegraph battalion, each of 3 companies. In addition to the 13 divisions there are 3 regiments of coast and 2 battalions of foot artillery, as well as the Yesso brigade, comprising 4 battalions of infantry, besides cavalry artillery and pioneers. The army of the second line (garrisons and reserve), consists of 36 battalions of infantry, besides cavalry, pioneers and depot troops. The peace strength in 1901-2 was 8,164 officers and 135,538 men, being a total of 143,649. The war strength (with 171 battalions, 43 squadrons and 71 batteries), was 392,220, with 1,098 guns, but this does not include all the

The Caribon.

reserves.

Newfoundland strangely appeals to the sportsman, whether he be devoted to the rod or the gun, and to a lover of the beauties of nature a day's outing in this rugged land is ample reward in itself, apart from the satisfactory barket or bag, as the case may be, which is certain to be secured. The country is wonderfully rich in all kinds of game birds and animals. But it is as a deer country that Newfoundland excels. The noble caribou roam over its uninhabited interior in countless herds. They are so numerous that the most unskilled sportsman, if well guided, need not return home without skins and antlers, secured by his own hand.-From "The Home of the Caribou," by H. A. Morine, in Four-Track

Metter Work Lately.

A very homely man in Chicago has a very pretty daughter. One day she was sitting on his knee right before a looking glass. She contemplated the reflection of their two faces and then

maked: "Papa, did God make me?"
"Yes, dear," he replied.
"And did he make you?"

"Yes."
"Looking again in the mirror, she drew a long breath and rejoined: "He must be turning out better work lately, isn't he?"—Metaphysical Maga-

.The strength of woman is only er per cent. that of man.

#### TORN. KNOZY HOSPITALITY.

The Henry canaling of Groups Washlegist's Introduct of Wor on Independence May, 1988.

di-josel historian of Thomaston, Me, describing the arrival of Gen. Knoz in that town, says: "The year 1796 is a memorable epoch in the histery of this town and the adjacent sountry; made so im consequence of the resignation of Maj. Gen. Henry Knox, as secretary of war under Washington, and his removal to Thomseton." Nosh Bosoks, in his life of "Henry Knoz," describes Gen. Knox's estate at this time. He had previously ordered the building of am elegant mansion, and now took possession of it, furnished it in a manner sumptuous for those primitive days in primitive Maine, and went heartily to work improving the vast tract of land. Mr. Brooks describes the mansion as follows:

"Unto this day there are extent many legends of the splendor of 'Montpelier,' as Knox dubbed his fine house, and the original cost of the building was variously reported to be anywhere between \$25,000 and \$50,000. As a matter of fact, Knox's own private accounts show that the house cost about \$15,000. The situation was one of great beauty and picturesqueness, the site of the mansion being elevated and surrounded with native forest trees.

Local tradition, which still lingers levingly over the fleetings aplendors of the Knex mansion, further sets forth the fact that 100 beds were made every day in that hospitable house. Abating much from these extravagant jegunds, it is evident that the Knox establishment, with its adjuncts of ship building, brickmaking, quarrying and farming; must have been a costly experiment in the hands of our generous and expansive Cincinnatus. In the course of time the experiment succeeded; but in its earlier stages it nearly bankrupted Gen. Knox and many of his friends.

"A pioneer to a certain extent, in the wilds of Maine, Knox was the first to introduce many features of social life that were novel in those parts. His wife's piano was the first brought into the region. His library, which was the second largest in Maine, comprised nearly 1,600 volumes, of which about one-fourth

were in the French language.

"His entertainments were on a great scale, as his Thomaston house greatly exceeded in size the domicile which he occupied in 'the bowery

lane,' New York.

"At his housewayming, on Independence day, 1795, 500 people came in answer to a general and generous invitation for all the inhabitants of the locality to be the guests of Gen. and Mrs. Knox. The entire Tarratine chan of the Penobscot Indians were his guests for days and weeks, and after feasts of beef, pork, corn and bread had exhausted the general's larder, if not his patience, it was needful for him to say to the chief: Now we have had a good visit, and you had better go home."

SHE HEEDED SYMPATHY.

And the Got It from a Willing Physician at the Rate of Five Dollars on Hour.

"When Dr. Pills went abroad," said the young physician, according to the Washington Post, "he test me in charge of his practice, and opposite one address in his book he made a mark—I won't say what it was—but it meant that I was to call at that house every day, without fail. I naturally expected to find the case a serious one, but owing to another mark beside the name I learned that nothing in the

world was amiss with the patient.

"It was a woman, and she lives in a handsome house in the best quarter of the town. She has a husband who is wrapped up in his business, and two grown sons who have their own affairs to attend to. I found her in bed, her elderly face topped by a coquettish invalid's cap. A lace shawl lay about her shoulders, and a silk quilt was apread carefully over her.

"Every time I went to see her I found her in a different toilet. Even the quilt was never alike two days in succession. There was absolutely nothing the matter with her but what I may call heart ennui. She was rich, but she hadn't anything in the world to interest her. Her husband and sons were good to her, but that is all. They didn't pet her nor make of her. She was simply pining for a little sympathy. It diverted her to see me come in.

"It pleased her to be able to talk about herself to somebody who would listen. She gained in her own estimation from having her pulse felt every day. She wanted the doctor to plan her day for her. Some days I ordered her to drive in a closed carriage. Other days I told her a drive in her victoria would do her a world of good. I always cautioned her to wrap up well. I gave her sympathy and attention, and I made her feel that she was an object of interest to at least one person.

"Of course, she was silly and selfish, too, but if her thick headed family had only thought of flattering her, of making of her, of treating her with anything besides their unvarying, unemotional kindness, she'd never have fancied herself an invalid. As it was, and as it is, she pays \$5 a visit for the chance to talk to somebody who is sympathetic, and I'm willing to supply sympathy to the whole town at

Thoughts Not Cheap.

Newed—A penny for your thoughts,

darling.
Mrs. Newed-O, they will cost you

more than that.

"What were you thinking about?"

"The dress I ordered yesterday."—

Stray Stories.

### PLEA FOR PURE FOOD

It is the Ill-Fed Man with Herves.

General Awakening of the Severament to the Injury Wrought by Imitations and Adulterants in the Various States.

The twentieth century will undoubtedly be the ere of pure foods throughout the civilised world, for there has been a general governmental awakflooded with the most injurious adulterated food stuffs, both solids and liquids, a menace to human health, says What to Eat. The United States is studying the pure food question, and congress will doubtless take sotion in securing a national pure food law which shall regulate the selling of imitations and adulterations in the various states. Individual states are being awakened to the great need of suppressing fraudulent foods, and the popular statesmen are these who advocate pure food laws and the correct labeling of adulterations. It is the duty of the state to protect its homes, and that state which sends forth the strongest and best men and women, physically, mentally and morally, is the best representative of a great metion.

Countries and states can do little toward educating the people without the cooperation and assistance of the individual home makers. "Ples like mother used to make" stand for the best of all foods in all times, for it is the home cooking of his mother that stays in the memory of every boy and man, whether he end in cabin or white house. It is the mothers and the teachers of domestic science that are most awakened to the fact that little men and women, as well as big ones, need the purest and most nourishing food to fit them for the nerve-wrecking environments of the modern business life. That man will make his mark in any business who has clear, active brain, vigorous bodily strength, perfect health and calm nerves. He whose system knows no poison has every advantage over the one whole system is undermined, nerves weakened and brain force impaired by insufficient nourishment.

Heretofore people have gone blindly through life, knowing less about the A B C of health than of any other subject. The child learns in some schools, not all, that he has bones. muscles, veins and arteries, flesh and cuticle, and gets a smattering idea of the proper foods. What he does not get, but what the new century will see him learning, is a perfect knowledge of the nutritive value of different foods, their effects on the human system, how to detect adulterated fonds and a true knowledge of their injurious effects. Banish the adulterated food that does not nourish and the poisons that undermine the system and much of the crime and misery of the world will go with it. It is the hungry, ill-fed, overworked nerves beyond control who commits murders, thefte and drinks himself and his family to ruin. A man seldom arises from a good, square, wellcooked meal of beefsteak and goes out and kills a fellow man. The workingman who has nourishing soup, meat and good coffee at home has little excuse to patronize the corner sulcon. The food question is a vital one, and people have awakened to the fact.

That the pure food movement will succeed is best indicated by the fact that the manufacturers of pure foods have enlisted in the cause of health and have given the food subject long and careful study. Men of science and learning and wide experience in the manufacture of foods have experimented and fried until they have found the ideal nourishments. Throughout the United States the pure food factory sites dot the railroad lines and big manufactories run hundreds of carloads behind in their orders during the busy season, showing that the demand for pure food is becoming universal. The pure food manufactories are an education in themselves, for they stand for welllighted, perfectly ventilated, immaculately clean plants, where the employes enjoy blessings unknown to most employes in other large fac-

Exploding Gazes at Martinique. Prof. A. E. Verrill, of Yale, regards the phenomena witnessed during the awful eruption of Mont Pelce in May as bearing out the theory that immense quantities of explosive gases were evolved through the dissociation of oxygen and hydrogen from the water on coming suddenly into contact with hot lave, and that these gases, when ejected into the atmosphere, exploded above the crater, producing the terrible effects that were noted. According to this view, the inhabitants of St. Pierre were killed by a sudden explosion of a vast volume of mingled oxygen and hydrogen, while the poisonous hydrochloric scidgas, formed by the chlorine liberated from the sea-water that had leaked into the volcano and was combined with some of the hydrogen, quickly suffocated those who may have escaped death from the explosion .--

Sale of Seriptures in Japan.

Thirty years ago in Japan the Scriptures were printed secretly and copies were sent out only after dark. Those who were engaged upon this work did it at the risk of their lives. Now there is a printing company in Kokohama issuing the Scriptures, not only in Japanese, but in Chinese, Thibetan, Corean and two dialects of the Philippine islands. Last year there were circulated in Japan alone over 138,000 copies.—N. Y. Sun.

GRAND THE WILD PLOWERS.

A. Valuable Lesson Which the West May Learn from the Superiones of the Sort.

Considering that the American poe ple spend over \$12,000,000 a year on roses, violets and other bothouse products raised by 6,000 Sorists of this country, irrespective of the probably larger sums that are paid to seedsmen and plant growers for public and private gardens, it is evident that an interest is felt in flowers. Whether it is interest or the lack of it that leads vandals to destroy them whenever they find them is open to argument. A fondness for these pretty nectories that leads to the enipping of blossoms from the plant is comprehensible enough, but in their eagerness or indifference many tear the whole plant out of the earth, cays the Brooklyn

Bagie. The result of this has been to almost exterminate certain of the wild flowers that used to make the upper end of Manhattan gay and that were not unknown on the edge of Brooklyn. The Dutchman's breeches, that served as reminders of the original settlers hereabout, are now conspicuously absent; wild roses no longer perfume the air; the indestructible dalay is passing under legal ban, along with the thistle; the butteroup has been plowed out and hacked and broken; even the dandellon has to He low. Where flowers and fragrance made the spring day giad there now are barrenness and ragweed.

These facts have prompted the Misses Phelps-Stokes to give \$3,000 to the New York botanical garden for investigation and the preservation of native plants. The interest on this fund will be paid out in prizes for essays and studies relating to the subject, which shall be expanded to mean not merely herbaceous plants, but vegetation of all sorts, including trees. These essays are to be not over 2,500 words long, and must naturally have some practical consequences.

While this is very well and will do its

part in educating the public to a more sensible enjoyment of nature and its advantages, and may restrain our barbarians in the practice of smashing, tearing and destroying what they care little for themselves, and will prevent others from enjoying at all, it would need to advantage in the cultivation of wild flowers and the dissemination of their seed, bulbs or cuttimes in such secluded parts of the city as would insure a chance of their survival. The habitat of various species is known. Seed thrown into congenial soil would be almost certain to spring into plant and flower, and the arbutus, the lady's slipper and many other delightful companions of one's field and woodland walks may be familiar once more. The age is not so wholly hard and void of sentiment and the sense of beauty as to make this impossible.

#### DESTROYING RAINS.

Young Quadrupeds, Land Birds and Even Water Powls Are Suffering in England,

From all parts of England and much of the continent of Europe comes news of the destruction of life caused by the incessant aummer rains, reports the London Spectator. They have not only been extraordinarily heavy, but have lowered the temperature to an unusual degree, adding to the plague of wet the further plague of cold. From race horse foals to the swifts and swallows, every form of life seems to have suffered. June is the most critical month for the reproduction of the mafority of European birds and beasts. Deer drop their fawns in June, and the bulk of the migrant birds are bringing up their first broads, while other and earlier species are laying for their second. Young pheasants are about to get their head feathers (after which they are fairly safe), and partridges are sitting for the second or third week. Cygnets are due to hatch, the young grouse are at a critical age, and the young wild ducks are not yet out of the down.

It is a curious fact that wet weather is quite as fatal to young water fowls as to land birds. Mr. J. G. Millais in his fine work just published on the "Surface-Feeding Ducks," says that though the little ducklings will play for hours on the water when it is under them, they succumb in a very short time to rain falling on their backs. He is, we believe, the first naturalist to point this out, and illustrates it by a most charming drawing of several old wild ducks, who have brought their broods to shore at the first sign. of a shower, and are not "mothering" them as a hen does by sitting over them, but stand up with their backs to the rain, and opening their wings hold them out on either side, making a kind of curtain or screen for the little ones to shelter in front of.

A quite distressing instance came under the writer's own notice last week of the death of little cygneta, due partly to the weather, partly tell the very limited brains of the swan." The bird hatched on Saturday, bringing out four sweet little cygnets, covered with gray down and with the brightest black eyes, one infertile egg only remaining out of five. The rain poured nearly all Saturday, and the cygneta could not be taken into the water or be allowed to find food. One got out of the nest and remained exposed during the cesseless rain of the night. Next morning it was found dead, and the others were probably weakened by the want of food. Two of them got out into the cold, wet gress next day. where cock swan found them and covered them. Finally, the hen bird, in taking them to the river, led them into a muddy puddle of very cold water, where all three died in about half an hour, a melancholy end to such bright little creatures.

## OUR PENSION LAWS.

The Coverment's Liberality To-

An Compared with the Laws of Other Constrice, These of America Are For About-Limitations and Requirements.

The amount estimated as accessary for the payment of our pensions for the coming fiscal year is \$138,800,000. As compared with the appropriation for the present year this sum shows an estimated decrease of \$5,500,000. Compared with the pension expenditures of other governments, so based on the figures of the last two years, it is more than double the total of all of them put together, says a Washington report. The magnitude of our pension scheme is an obvious indicaion of the liberality of our laws. Their liberality as regards the title of cisiments, as well as the conditions under which pensions are paid, can be more fully comprehended by consider-ing the requirements and restrictions which attach to the pensions paid by the United States and those paid by other governments. Practically, there are military pension systems in all countries. Occasionally they are closely connected with provisions for ciril pensions. In Italy the two plans are inceparable.

In the first place, there are few countries in which the regulations under which applications may be filed are as favorable as they are in this country. Great Britain refuses to entertain any application from an officer for a penalon for a wound unless he applies within five years after receiving the wound; in Japan the maximum time is three years, and in Switzerland one year from the time the disability was incurred. Switzerland, furthermore, penalons for one year only, the application bring "reconsidered" at the end of each year.

Very different from these requirements are those of the pension law of the United States, with no limitation as to the time of application, so term pensions and no annual examinations. A civil war soldler is fully at liberty to seek a pension to-day for wounds or disability incurred in 1862; and if he can trace the origin of a disability to his army service the pension is granted, although for 40 years he has failed to make any claim on the government for assistance. It may be that the applicant is occupying a remunerative federal position; if so, that fact will not be considered in adjudienting the claim or in paying the pension. In Japan, however, a pension is suspended during the time of government employment. In this country the pension roll has included members of the eablast and of congress.

In case the pensioner desires to leave his country, either permanently or for a term of years, how is such a departure looked upon by the various governmenta? Under the law of Servin such a peneloner ceases to receive aid from e government. The Argentine Republic pays him for two menths only. In Peru the right to a pension is forfeited if the beneficiary remain abroad two years. France. Austria. and Greece permit residence abroad by express consent of the government only. England requires pensioners to obtain leave to go outside the country, and provides for a reduction of the pension after three years' absence, with its entire forfeiture if the pensioner is under 50 years of age; between the ages of 50 and 60 the pension may be commuted. With the exception of a law that was in operation from 1893 to 1895, the United States bave made no distinction between pensioners resident abroad and those resident in the United States. Last year this government paid \$641,161.65 to 4.547 pensioners residing in foreign countries.

Handy Book of Insuits.

Herr Schuch, a German author, has compiled a dictionary of 2,500 insulting expressions, carefully tabulated, indexed and classified. The work, on which Herr Schuch has spent years of labor, is called the Schimpfworter Lexikon and is divided into five general heads-insults for men, insults for women, insults for either sex. Insults for children and collective itsults for syndicates, groups and corporations. Herr Schuch, with that minute discernment of the searching German, has subdivided these classes. into smaller ones, so that when one wishes to call his friend or enemy a name it needs but a short-consultation with the book to find the exact epithet or phrase which will fit the case. This work would have been invaluable to Mississippi river pilots in the old days, and even now the teamster may regard it as a welcome addition to his library.-Chicago Chronicle.

Telephones Are Indispensable.

The growth of the telephone business has been enormous in recent years. The statement has been made that there are now in use in this country upward of 3,400,000 telephone instruments, and that a great majority of these have been put in place during the past ten years. More than 200,000 telephones have been placed in farmhouses within a few years. The increase in farm telephones is proportionately greater than in any other branch of the business.—Chicago Chronicle.

Many Meirs for Small Estate.

An unmarried woman's estate of \$625.75 was lately distributed by a probate court of Indiana among 39 heirs. The largest amount anyone received was \$74, which went to surviving brothers and sisters. The smallest amount was \$3.09, the particle grandnephews and grandnieces received.—Chicago Chronicle.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS

Pairien hebdomadaire \$3.00.

Science.