MATRIMONIAL ELICIBILITY. THESMALLSHUGGLER Some of the Many Various Revenue That Prompt Men to "Pop

... the Question.

The featons which prompt men to make offers of marriage to women are as many and various as the number and Ands of women thus honored, says the New York Times. Not alone are this matural graces and charms of femininity the loci of attraction for the average man Acquired accomplishments often point for a great deal, and it frequently happens that women are eagerly desired for qualifications, which, while strongly appealing to those who desire them. would not in the least appeal to others mecupying a different point of view.

These very general and not altogether Juminous reflections are suggested by a news frem which reaches us from northern New York of an avalanche of marriage offers which has overwhelmed two estimable young women, the daughters of a sarmer at Schuyler. They are not described as beautiful. So far as we are advised, they are not distinguished for accomplishments of the kind which make for social preeminence. Perhaps they are not more amiable, more affectionate, nor more practical in the general duties of housewifery than others. Their claim to distinction is that they "killed, cleaned, scalded and hung" two 300-pound hogs without masculine asmistance.

fretantly an overpowering passion was took possession of the heart of every eligible bachelor within what may be rated buggy radius. The rural delivery earrier has had to provide himself with a wheelbarrow to transport the offers of marriage which come by mail, and the comon, rse of vehicles which is strung s'ong the paternal front fence every day and evening suggests that a con-Linuous funeral is in progress within. Perhaps it is. A great many pascent hopes of domestic happiness; along miricily bucolic lines perish in the fam-'ilv "settin' room" every 24 hours, and enough broken hearts are left behind ty departing sultors to fertilize the farm If their fragments could be composted. The young women are said to decline, "firmly but kindly." the offers of marstiage which are pressed upon them. It may be that their unique claim to disfinction puts them in a class which makes it an impertinence for the suitor to offer them the commonniace life of the farmer's wife, who can count upon

a bog killing not oftener than once a green. Their sphere of social triumphs soriously lies in Cincinnation Chicago.

THE WAYS OF SQUIRRELS. Peculiarities of Voice and Action of the Animals in Summer

and Winter.

"One of the most familiar sounds of the summer woods is the rattling bark ist the red squirrel," writes an observer. The tones of his voice are varied and there is a great difference between his magry bark, his cry of fear, the chattering monologue with which he addresses an intruder on his domain, the running are of repartee which is the constant accompaniment of the antics of a pair at play, and the long rattling roll call atich he urters apparently from sheer enjoyment of the sound or as a challenge some unseen enemy of his own tribe and which reverberates through the woods often with sufficient force to carfry the sound for as much as half to inbree-quarters of a mile. If we listen -tor an instant when we hear one of these challenges sent forth we may hear a answered from some distant point, was faintly that we cannot be certain that a is not an echo. Some other maie has heard the challenge and, detecting the welf-satisfied note in it has answered, and we may be fairly certain that they are hastening toward each other, each with the intention of annihilating his

> the or at least teaching him a lesson. "Gray squirrels, unlike most of the endents, do not hibernate in the winter . time, but are abroad and very active during most of the season. Their nests are then in hollow trees, but they usualby leave these retreats in March and Bulld airier and less vermin-infested abodes in the treetops of leaves and wigs. If you can watch a gray squirrel gathering nuts in the fall you will see him take a nut in his cheek pouch and Bop along the ground, testing it every new yards with his front feet. When Be has found a spot enthrely to his liking he will scoop out a shallow holeand, placing the nut in it, will cover it up with the loose earth. This he will stamp fown and restore to its former condi-Mon by scraping the loose leaves and

small stones over it. "This performance he repeats again and again in that and other localities. gentil he has hidden away in this manner a large quantity of nuts, one squirrel often burying several hundred. In the winter, as he needs them, he unearths these nuts, and it is wonderful how unerringly be can go to his various caches, even though, as frequently happens, whey may all be covered with a foot or more of snow."

Cheap College Degrees.

The familiar charge that the degree LL D is bestowed with too lavish a mand by colleges and universities is mkely to gain force from a recent occorrence The South Carolina college, at Columbia, celebrating its centennial, was moved by the joy of the occasion to affix the honorific letters to 36 men. It was not supposed that there were whree dozen persons of distinction in the country whom the other colleges had not already labeled -N. Y. Trib-

Years and Spirit. Ciara-You don't mean to say that at 50 he is making love to you? Isn't that rather young for an old man? Maud-Yes. But he is the most precocious old man I ever met.-N. Y.

PERSON WHO TRIES TO EVADE DUTY ON MERE TRIPLES.

_____ Vigilance of Customs Officers Ls Gradually Stamping Out the Practice - Operations of Professionals.

"Petty amuggling, the sort that is practiced by people who have bought some small articles abroad and want to bring them home without paying duty, is now being pretty well stamped out," said a man who was for neveral years in the United States customs service on the Pacific coast to a Kansas City Journal writer. "Of course, there never was so much of it in the west as on the Atlantic goast, but the vigilance of the customs officials and the severe penalties imposed on people who have been caught has had a tendency to break it up

preity thoroughly. "As a general thing the people who try to smuggle in dutiable goods are now of two classes, the one composed of professional smugglers who operate on a large scale, and the other of actresses and wealthy people of a certain sort, who take no particular pains to avoid detection, and who enjoy the notoriety which an escapade of the

suft gives them. "On the Pacific coast the two things to which the operations of smugglers are almost entirely confined are opium and silks. Both have to pay heavy duties, and both are comparatively easily concealed. Much of the silk brought in from China and Japan is of such fine texture that four or five ordinary sized handkerchiefs could be concealed in an English walnut shell.

"Some unique methods are used by optum smugglers.' One day the wharfinger at San Francisco was standing near his office when he saw a lime fly over a high fence which inclosed a vacant lot just adjoining the wharf Before long another one came in the same way. He thought nothing of it at first, as the boys are quite in the habit of throwing things at the rais around the wharfs. But when they kept on coming his curiosity began to be aroused. He stepped over to where the limes were falling, and where there were by that time probably a dozen of hem, picked one up and cut it open

He found a small plug had been cut from the lime, as though with a leather punch, the hole filled with small pills of opium wrapped in oiled paper. and the outside part of the plug returned to its place. The limes had been thrown from the deck of a ship at anchor at the wharf to the vacant lot, where the smuggler expected to pick them up later.

"Of late the center of the opium smuggling has been transferred from San Francisco to the ports farther north, as the men who were operating in that line became too well known to San Francisco officials. Now most of them come in through Portland, or further north, in the British possessions, where I understand the Canadian officials are now having a great

deal of trouble. "It was the custom for some time to allow a great deal of liberty to army officers returning from the Philippines. and to take their statements as to the. dutiable goods in their possession without a very thorough investigation. But it was found that the privilege was being abused, and a stricter search was instituted. Shortly afterward a captain came through, with three big trunks, and declared that he had practically nothing of a dutiable nature. An inspection showed that in the bottom of one of his trunks were whole bolts of valuable silks, which he lost altogether by trying to cheat the government which he served."

Indian Novels by Indian Writers. Of late years the number of writers among the Cherokees has greatly increased. There are historians in the tribe whose works are used as textbooks in the Indian schools, and who are cited as authorities not to be disputed. There are also indians who have written codes of law which before being put in permanent form had been handed down from generation to generation. The Indians to-day obey these laws with a greater reverence than they do the laws of the United States There are indian novelists—novelists who devote their time to entertaining the Indian mind with romance with entangled plots and blood-curdling climaxes. These books are popular among the Indians. Edition after edition of some works is published, and they are read by buck and squaw allke.—Kansas City Journal.

Manufacture of Chartreuse. One of the few items of foreign trade of this district in which change is shown is alcohol, which is being imported now by the Carthusian monks, lately emigrated from France, who have transferred the manufacture of their renowned chartreuse to this city. They continue to receive spirits for its manufacture from the distilleries which they owned and are suspected of owning still in other countries. It is doubtful whether they will find it economical to continue under their present management owing to the custom house duties which they tried to avoid by pleading the reexportation of alcohol after it is blended in their liquor. Drawbacks are unknown in this, the country of their adoption, and the claims were not al-

L J AGOSTINI

A Bad Witness. Lawyer-Madam, this man, your husband, is accused of arson. Will you swear that he has a mania for building fires?

Witness-No, sir! He never got up in his life until I'd built all the fires in the house.—Detroit Free Press.

Trained by Noted Educator Colored Baltimerean Becomes Valuabie Assistant.

John W. Widgeon, scientist, in probably the most interesting accroin Baltimore. He holds a position at the Maryiand academy of sciences directly under the eye of Dr. Philip R. Uhler, which gives him a place of distinction among his race. He has accomplished, says a recent report, a wonderful amount of work of a scientific nature without any other training than that given him by Dr. I'hler, whose protoge he has been for many years, and he is engaged at present upon the arrangement of a collection of coral which he gathered last summer in and near Jamaica which is said to be the best in that part of the conntry.

Widgeon's life has been such an interesting one that at the auggestion of Dr. Uhler he has begun to write out the whole of it. He is the only negro in Maryland who has seriously attracted the attention of scientific men. and what he is doing now bids fair to make him even more widely known than

Widgeon was born of slave parents on the eastern shore of Virginia in 1859. After the civil war he went to Baltimore and got a position in the establishment of Kuhn & Cummings, photographers, where he learned a great deal about photography. Then he went to work for Sharp & Dohme, where he remained 16 years. During his connection with this firm he learned a lot of chemistry, for he was employed in the iaboratory ten years. Dr. Uhler gave him a position as a helper on one of his scientific corps after he left the drug firm, and he showed such marked ability in this line of field work that it was not long before he was sent out on expeditions by himself to gather geological specimens for collections or for study in the laboratory. He has been engaged upon this sort of work for 19 years, and in that time he has got together a valuable collection of fossils, rocks, minerals, Indian relies and birds and snakes, all of which are on exhibition at the Maryland academy of sel-

The coral collection is excellent. Widgeon made two trips to Jamaica to get it. He did all the work himself. He stripped and dived for the specimens he wanted not bothering with the paraphernalia of regulation scientists and divers.

Or. Thier say that he would not dis pense with the services of his colored helper for those of a highly trained scientific man, because Widgeon, being a negro, can and is willing to do certain kinds of work which a white man would not do.

"His endurance and patience." continged Dr. Uhler, 'are unlimited. If seems to me, and his Indian blood, of which he has considerable, his grandmother having been full-blooded, gives him the characteristic trait of wood and field craft. He is invaluable to me and the work he does is as complete and thorough as I could hardly get under other circumstances."

SPEED OF A RATTLESNAKE. There Are But Few Things Swifter in Motion Than Its Head

in Action.

In this wide world there are several things that are swifter than a rattlesnake, but they can probably be counted on the fingers of one hand, writes A. W. Rolker, in Prarson's Magazine. One of these things is a bullet; whereby hangs the explanation why it is easy to shoot the head off a rattler, although a marksman finds it difficult to place a bullet along the fat, seven-foot line between the neck of the reptile and the tip of its tail.

It has long been regarded as a curious coincidence that even the man not famed for accuracy has had no trouble in blowing the head off a diamond back. In the diamond back country only one explanation is offered for this-it is the snake and not the man that does the

aiming. At close quarters, the instant the muzzle of a six-shooter is thrust toward a rattlesnake, the infallible eye catches the range and in the fraction of a twinkle the deadly head has aligned itself. As the gun roars and darts its tongue of flame, the head of the creature is torn off clean as if severed with a knife and the viper lies writhing, emitting a defiant rattle even as its grim, relentless heart ceases its beat.

Ramie Fiber in Germany. I desire to call attention to the growing demand for ramie in the textile industries of this country. The long. strong and glossy fiber of this plant serves as an admirable substitute for flax, cotton or silk, and only its present scarcity and cost prevent a largely increased consumption. If, as was so long and earnestly insisted by the late Prof. Waterhouse, our southern states are specially adapted for the successful cultivation of this plant, it cannot be too strongly urged that experiments in cultivating it be more widely extended. The raw material will find as ready a market in Europe as would flax fiber.

RUGO MUENCIL Japan Was Loaded for Bear.

It was virtually admitted by the Russians months ago that they would not have treated Japan as they did in the negotiations preceding hostilities had they supposed she would fight. The lack of preparation proves that the Russian officials were bluffing. With an unbroken series of defeats in the far east, and strikes at home developing into a revolution, the regret of the Russian grand dukes that they did not know Japan to be loaded when they played with her can be imagined. -Philadelphia Record.

NEGRO EXCELS IN SCIENCE MAN EATS TOO MUCH.

THE AVERAGE MAN CONSUMES MUCH UNNECESSARY FOOD.

THE PART OF THE RESIDENCE This Opinion Verified by Experiments with Three Different Classes of Man-Diet and Civ-Llization.

A series of experiments has recently been concluded under the auspices of the Sheffield scientific school of Yale to determine the point as to whether the average human being does not eat too much. Prof. Russel H. Chittenden, the director of the school, who conducted the experiments, read a paper on the subject before the National Academy of Sciences at Washington, in which he reported that as a result of the ingerigations the conclusion hed been reached that the average healthy man eats from two to three times as much as he needs to keep him in perfect physical health and VIROF.

The experiments were made on three classes of men, several professors of the school, some students and a squad of United States soldiers. In nearly all the tests meat was gradually reduced, with little if any increase in starch and other foods. No fixed regimen was required in any case, the endeavor being to satisfy the appetite of each aubject.

The experiments, which lasted a period of from six months to nearly a wear, ended a short time ago when, according to Prof. Chittenden, all his

subjects were in the best of health. Their weight in some cases was almost exactly the same as when the experiments were begun rul in some slightly lower. Their bodlly vizor was greater and their strength was much greater, partially owing to the regular physical exercises during the experiments and partially due. Prof. Chittenden believes, to the smaller amount of food eaten. The daily consumption of food at the close of the experiments was much less than the recognized standard and from a third to a half as much as the average man

It is undoubtedly true that overesting is distinctly harmfu! to health. Some hold that more persons are injured by overfeeding than by overin-

dulgence in alcoholic stimulants. Further, the statement is incontrovertible that a certain class of the population of the world eat in a manner which is decidedly prejudicial to their physical and mental well-being. In the higher or richer classes such an individual is termed a gormand, while in the more vulgar language of the working classes the gross feeder is styled a glutton. The ordinary healthy person. may also eat in excess of his real need. and would probably do equally well if he curbed his appetite for food within more stringently narrow limits.

Such instances, however, occur mainly among those who can afford to eat whatever they may desire. Their number, however, is not so large as some would have as believed even in these days of vaunted prosperity. Overeating is principally prevalent among that class who have the money to spend on self-indulgence and who frequently fall into the habit of literally gorging themselves. The majority of the inhabitants of the world who can earn their bread by the sweat of their brow cannot spare out of their wages sufficient to enable them to gratify their eating propensities, but are compelled to live frugally. Many of these do not consume enough nourishing food, and it would be to their physical and mental advantage if they partook of a more generous alet.

Again, good rooking, suitable food and avoidance of monotony in diet are just as important factors in the preservation of "the sound mind in the sound body" as is the quantity of food consumed. Variety is the spice of life and without the savor of change food does not work the good expected of it. At the same time the diet should be wholesome and plain and the canned and preserved foods which are so prominent features in the cuisine of modern civilization should be avoided

as far as possible. In the United States and in Great Britain the population do not require to be warned so much against the illeffects of overeating as against nonnutritive and deleterious food and bad cooking.

The conclusions reached by Prof. Chittenden are interesting, but prove nothing definitely. If he is of the opinion that the deductions to be drawn from the investigation are that the daily rations of the average person should be cut down, experience would seem to be against his point of view. Underfed nations have never been in the forefront of civilization, but have always been the easy prey of those peoples who have been able to satisfy thoroughly the cravings of their stomachs. The matter is of little concern to the average person, but touches closely the well-to-do individ-

The problem of what to eat and how to cook food is of greater moment than the question of overeating. An editorial in the British Medical Journal of a recent date states the situation aptly in the following words: "What to eat and what to drink will always be decided by national custom and individual preference, so far as the public is concerned, but both may be influenced in the right direction by the guidance of skilled medical opinion."

Real Dignity. There is a healthful hardiness about real dignity that never dreads contact and communion with others, however humble.--Irving.

ROBINS GATHERED BY HAND

Carolina Sport of Picking the Dirds Off the Bushes in the Night-Time.

They pick robins off trees in North Carolina. A young insurance inspector. who has just returned from the south brings with him the queer story of this new kind of sport, says the New York "I was in Ramsur, N. C., near Char-

lotte, on the Ashbury & Aberdeen milway," said he, "when one evening a Young fellow about my own age naked me to go with him for a robin hunt. "That doesn't sound very exciting."

I replied. 'How do you hunt them?' 'Why, you take a back and a jug of corn whisky, and drive a little way out into the country and pick them off the trees.

"Back up, old man, I said, "you must be thinking of awallows."

"He insisted that he was serious, and the upshot of it was that I found mycell in a rickety back with the inevitable demijohn of corp waitky, and, sure enough, the fellow had some bags, to carry away the robins, and a counte of torches. Two or three other similarly laden conveyances were following us.

"We got out in a little dip in the land, and the torches were lighted. And there on the bushes were hundreds of robins which had just migrated from the north and were resting in the warm shelter of the dip in the land. Those of them that were awakened by the glare of the terches blinked sleepily and chirped impatiently at the interruption of their BAD.

The whole party fell to and actually picked them off the busines with their hands and filled their bags as fast as they could. Talk about getting a hig of name! The fellows would gather 20 or 30, and then punctuate the performance with a swig of corn whisky, which is the rawest, holtest stuff I ever tasted in

"This continued until the booze hegan to get in its effects, and then a fellow fell down with a crash to the thickest part of the bushes. The whole flock rose with a sudden whire and disappeared into the darkness. We had been moving softly hitherto, although some of the robins out of reach on the higher branches had been knocked down with

"That's about all there is to the story except that it is the funiest sensation I ever felt to wake up in the morning with my head on a bag of live robins."

"A BUM BY ABSORPTION." Col. Knight Relates an Experience with an Uncorked Bottle of Brandy.

"I was tipsy just once in my life." said Col. Knight, according to the New York Sun. "I was going through to the Pacific coast, and during a short wait in Chicago I ran to a near-by saloon and asked for a bottle of brandy

Before I could stop him, the bar tender ran a big corkscrew into the cork. and I said to him:

"'Don't you do that Think you're the only man in the country who has

a corkscrew?" "So he wrapped the bottle up quick and passed it over and I ran for the train. My berth was made up and I thrust the bottle in the rack overhead

without sampling it. Then I turned in. "Morning broke and I woke up with a feeling that I was one of an ell night party that had tarried with the price at the expense of sleep. Pirst I wonnered where I had been and then worke t was at the moment. Then I realized that I was on the train and wondered if

I could get out of the bunk. "My head felt like a shoot lead hive with the bees getting ready to swarm. ! pushed the button and when the porter

came I asked him: " 'Where did I get this?"

"" 'Dunno, boss, hut you do look bad."

"'Did I walk in my sleep?" "'No, sir, not so I'd notice it."

"'Well, assist me out if you think my head will go through the passage to the lavatory,' I said, and while I was washing up he began to arrange the section for the day.

"When I got back to where he was working he said, with a grin of great

" 'I'se got the clew to the extraneous situation, boss. Here it is, and he held up a half bottle of brandy and said: "I guess you didn't have to walk fur."

"'But the cork has not been pulled!" I remarked, and the coon's face took on a look of amazement; but I readily understood what had happened.

"The brandy had been leaking through the perforated cork, drop by drop, upon my head and face all night long and I had accumulated a regular bum by absorption. The only Latin maxim I could think of to express my sentiments just then was 'Similia similibus curantur."

Music as a Profession.

Unless a man is rich he ought to be regarded as a criminal if he permits his sons and daughters to become musicians. In the musical profession there are a few prizes not of the largest, but for the largest number of interpretative artists the life is one of drudgerythe drudgery of learning, the drudgery of pushing one's self into notice, and after all the continual drudgery of playing or singing just the music the public wants. I recommend no one to enter such a profession unless he or she loves music to such a degree that the drudgery is a pleasure.-John T. Runelman, in Saturday Review.

Cause and Effect.

The conversation was fragmentary. Under the circumstances it couldn't well be otherwise.

She—the wife—had asked for money. He—the husband—was broke. And she was giring him a piece of her mind.—Chicago Daily News.

PROGRESS IN PHILIPPINES.

What Is Being Accomplished in the Education of Children of the Islands.

According to the report of David, P. Barrows, general superintendent of education for the Philippines, there were, in March and April of this year, 227,600 children in the public schools of the Islands Of these, 220,000 were in some one of the three years of the primary course. As in all probability the great mojority of these will not do more than finish these three years, says the Chicago Evening Post, it is interesting to note the sort of education they are receiving under the American administration.

In the first year of the primary course reading, writing, spelling, arithmetic and object work intended to cultivate the power of, observation are the prescribed studies. In the second, there studies are continued with advanced apparatus.

In the third, geography is added, and there are courses in business, buying and selling contracting loans interest. security and commission, for the benefit of boys who cannot take the intermediate and secondary courses. Such boys are also to be organized into clubs, in which they are to be taught the rules and procedure governing the conduct of a meeting, the election of officers, the making of a motion, de-

bate and voting. _____ Toward the close of the year the club will organize itself as a municipal government, and at each meeting there will be explained the municipal and provincial governments, the powers and duties of officers and the rights and duties of citizens.

The intermediate grades three in number, bring the students to the science studies and prepare them for the secondary courses of the Ligh schools, which fit the students for entrance into a college or university

Mr. Barrows says that the number of pupils in the primary schools must be about doubled before the instruction is placed within the reach, of every Pillpino child between the ages of 6 and 14 years. That is, enough schoolbouses. and teachers, school furniture and books to give continuous schooling to 404,000 children will be required. "If this standard can be reached and maintained for a prriod of ten years." continues Mr. Barrows, "we will,

broadly speaking, have no illiterate youth among the Filipino people." As this is a matter of the first im-

portance is carrying out the purposes of the American people toward the Filipinos, the facts presented by Mr. Barrows and the recommendations accompanying them should receive the most earnest consideration of the government and the Philippine commissioners. Aiready the island schools are overcrowded and lacking to trained native teachers. To reach the standard and the capacity set by Mr. Barrows would require the doubling of appropriations for current educational expenses from both local and general inaular sourres

Some way should be devised to meet this expense. Highly creditable work has been done thus far, and in the face of unusual difficulties. Each year now the task must grow lighter, the difficulties must grow less. The solution of most of the problems with which we have to deal in developing the Pilipinos and their archipelago ties in the education of the Filipino children. The American public schools of the islands constitute the most useful and valuable amint in preparing the Finplaid for full-self-government. "

CURIOUS PENSION FIGURES

Three Relatives of Revolutionary War Heroes Still Supported by Uncle Sam.

Some of our pension statistics are curious. For example, we tearn that there are still on the rolls three pensioners of the revolutionary war, which was brought to an end over 120 years ago. Of pensioners accredited to the war of 1812, says the Success Magazine, there still remain 919, while of the Mexican war no fewer than 13,055 survive. Of those accredited to the revolutionary war, one is a widow and two are daughters. Thereport shows that pension payments are made to people residing in every state and territory in the union, and in almost every known country on the globs. Among the states, Obio leads in the amount of pension money paid annually to its citizens, with Pennsylvania second, New York third, and Diinois and-Indiana following closely. At the data of the report, there were 4,910 pensioners residing outside of the limited States. and they drew \$722,440.69 in the last fiscal year. Nearly half of this amount went to persons in Osmada. Quarterly, pension vouchers were sent besides to persons in Mexico, South America, every country in Europe, the Azores, the Barbados, China, the Comoro Isles, East and South Africa, Samoa, the Seychellas islands, Siam and St. Martin. It shows that the pension bureau was a busy office. last year. More than 268,000 cases were passed upon, and 153,000 certificates were issued. No fewer than 108;114 applications were rejected, of which 83,000 were thrown out on medical and 24,000 on legal grounds.

Young Porto Rican Gardeners. By way of encouraging the young Porto Ricans to work, Dr. Lindsay, the United States commissioner of education for the island, has planned for every country school bouse to have an acre or two of land for gardening. The pupils are divided into two shifts, and while one set is studying reading. writing and arithmetic the other is learning the rudiments of practical gardening. Each school has two teachers, one for the ordinary educational branches and the other for the

gardening.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS

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