EXTEMPORIZING A CIPHER.

Pertile Minded Clerk Contrived Blind Message for His Incapable Employer.

When Wall street first caught the fever for "industrial combinations" and began the reorganization of everything in hight, says the Brooklyn Eagle, one of the votaries of high finance found himself in Chicago in extreme need of communicating with his New York of-

He had almost completed an arrangement for the consolidation of several western enterprises, but in order to get the final authority he needed from New York, he must explain all he had done

by wire to his partners. There was no time to write. He had ino cipher code. For a long time he tried to think out some way to send the information so that it would be plain to his pariners and meaningless to anyone else. His secret was a valuable one, and once sent over the wire might be sold ant to his rivals in Wall street for a

large sum. At last he decided to take the chances in plain English Accordingly he wrote the message and gave it to his assistant

Half an hour later, when the assistant came buck, he asked him if he had

"Not just that way," said the clerk. "I rewrote it, the first word on a Postal Thinnk, the second on a Western Union, and so on. I sent half by each company, and neither half meant anything. Then sent a second message by one line, saying: Read both messages together, alternating words."

The scheme was too simple for the high financier to have evolved, but it prorked perfectly

IN FEATHER FACTORIES.

Employes Suffer from Inflamed Eyes and Congested Lungs-Often Fatal.

Women workers in feather factor

ies suffer from "dust disease" the same as stonecutters. In such factories the atmosphere is charged with almost invisible particles of feathers. which cause inflammation of the eyes and congestion in the lungs of the toilers. The sensitive mucous memferane of the lungs and bronchial tubes becomes so coated with the pariticles of feathers that within three years after entering such factories the women who prepare these, the fornaments for civilization's wealth

and beauty, find their health serious-

ly, if not fatally, impaired. Locemakers also often suffer from inflamed eyes. Employes of lacemaking establishments are frequently shilged to wear colored spectacles. land their eyes often become terribly ibleodshot. Oculists and opticians in making contors like Brussels are supported almost entirely by the lacemakers. Disorder of the eyes directily affects the nerves, and many cases ef fatal nervous breakdown are reported everywhere among girls employed in lace mills.

QUEER FREAK OF NATURE.

Body of Prehistoric Animal Found Imbedded in a Big Lump of Coal.

A wonderful freak of nature was unearthed recently in Ronwell, N. M., ro. a car of coal. The remains of some prebistoric animal were found imbedded in is round lump of coal weighing 41 pounds. The tail of the animal was sticking out of one side, and one leg and part of a shoulder out of the other. The head had rotted off, and the balance of the carcass was as dry as a bone.

The fur on the front part of the body was soft, fluffy and white and black. The fur of the tail was jet black. The shody resembled that of a house cat, and In the round lump of conj measures 19 duches in length.

The curiosity will be sent to the Emithsonian institution at Washington. The lump of coal came from the Washington district and the Pictou mines.

. The Kutho-Daw.

Great as has been the amount of labor expended on the various Bibles of the world, the paim for execution must be given to the Kutho-daw, which is a Buddhist monument near Mandalay in Burmah. It consists of about 700 temples, each containing a slab of white marble on which the whole of this Buddhist Bible, soutaining more than R. Nutr. Office syllables, has been engraved. The Burmese alphabet is used, but the language is Pall. This wonderful Bible is absolutely unique. The Kutho-daw was erected in 1857 by Mindon-min, the last king but one of Burmab. The vast collection of temples together form a square, with a dominating temple in the center. Each of the marble slabs on which the sacred text is inscribed is surmounted by an ornamental canopy in pagoda form.

No Bitter Feeling.

Tomson-Didn't it make you furious to think that bunco steerer succeeded in getting the last few thousand of that cranky old aunt of yours? Jonson-No, we think he rather got

the worst of it. You see, in order to get it he had to marry her - Descoit

Defined in Confidence.

Little Willie-Say, pa, what is a remote period? Pa-A remate period, my son, is the

period due at the end of your mother's remarks. Hemember, however, I am giving you this explanation in strict confidence.-Chicago Sun

Excels His Teacher. Miss Pert-What an intelligent little thing your dog is!

Cholly-Yans; I taught him myself. 'The idea! It seems impossible!"-Philadelphia Ledger.

TRRIGATION IN THE EAST.

Benefits Derived from Water Source in Regions That Have Irregular Raine.

That irrigation may be employed as usefully in the humid portion of the United States as in the arid section is announced by the department of agriculture. A balletin has been issued, showing the results of many experiments in this field, in which a steady water source was drawn on as an auxiliary to an irregular rain supply.

Near Poughkeepsie, N. Y., where rain is ordinarily bountiful for the crops, a grower of strawberries has found that the addition of a plant for irrigation enables him to insure a perfect stand and rapid growth of new plants. Spraying, and irrigation between the rows, put in fine condition for marketing a crop of berries which for lack of rain at the critical moment had colored and hardened without sweetening.

Market gardeners in many other parts of the east are having similar results. The experts at Washington believe that as the country becomes more completely settled and more intense gardening is required it will be found necessary to depend more and more upon irrigation se an insurance against drought and consequent crop failure.

BASEBALL TILL MIDNIGHT. People of Dawson Went Wild Over the Game During the Season

Last Summer.

"The Yukon country went wild over baseball last summer, and crowds attended the games at Dawson twice a week between eight p. m. and midnight, from May 31 to August 25 tast. There were between 3,000 and 4,000 persons at each game, and I take it that nowhere else in the world has the game ever been played at night from eight o'clock on toward the midnight hour."

So says Sheriff R. J. Eilbeck, who is in California spending the winter, says the Port Townsend Call. Mr. Eitbeck's home is in Dawson. He is sheriff of the Yukon territory. He is as enthusiastic about baseball as any irrepressible bleacher, and in the summer time in the land of the midnight sun he says there is a good article of the game produced and some very clever players

are developed. Sheriff Eilbeck says that Yukon territory authorities appropriated \$12,006 for fine baseball grounds and the great American game has entered the Yukon permanently as a night pleasure during the summer months.

AND HE SAWED THE WOOD

Veteran of Sixty-Two Celebrates His Birthday and Surprises His Friends.

The other day in the blacksmith shop Issner Brown a crowd of men were indulging in good-natured banter, says a Penacook item in the Concord Patriot. Among the number were Dudley L. Smith, a veteran of the Twelfth New Hampshire volunteers, who lost a leg at Gettysburg, and Samuel G. Sanborn, a retired blacksmith, who is living on the old home place.

The subject turned to sawing wood. and Farmer Sanborn claimed that Veteran Smith could not saw a cord of hard wood in three days. As Smith weighs 256 pounds, the odds were on Sanborn.

If Smith sawed the wood in the required time Jasper Brown was to have it as a gift. Smith commenced sawing at six o'clock in the morning and finished about five the same day. This is the way that Smith celebrated his sixtysecond birthday. J. C. Farrand is thinking of hiring Smith to take the place of his engine in the wood yard.

SIDE LIGHTS ON FLAMES. Ice Formed on Firemen's Clother Protects Them in Extremely

"Pity the poor firemen," said the citizen who watched the ice-coated relays of men fighting a stubborn blaze in a Chicago street the other day. reports the Post. . 'They are animated

Cold Weather.

icebergs." "But the fellows don't mind that a little bit," said Chief Campion, as he broke a stalactite five inches long from his mustache and slowly bending his arm, cracked off several square feet of ice from his subber coat. "The cold water is a help to a fireman in the extremely cold weather, provided it does not form ice too thick on him.

The coat of frigidity keeps him warm. "But it is the deluge of hot water that comes when a man is working in a basement that causes the suffering. Hot water goes through-penetrates to the kin-and the moment the deluged fireman goes into the zero weather, he gets the full benefit of the cold."

Oldest Fort.

The oldest fortress in the United

States is Fort Marion, on the Matanzas,

in Florida. It has seen many bloody

frays in the opening up of what is now the paradise of the south. The land around this ancient place has been watered by the blood of men who have fallen in conflict, but to-day it is a peace-

ful, picturesque spot, full of charm and serenity.

Suicide by Shooting. An Austrian student of the phenomena attending suicide says that of those persons who try to take their life by shooting themselves only one-third succeed in attaining their end at once. Another third die from a long period of suffering from the wound inflicted, while the remaining third survive.

Heading Him Off. "So you wish to marry my daughter? Can you support a family?" "No, sir; but I can support your

daughter."-Houston Post.

WATER REDUCES WEIGHT.

This Claim Is Made by a Prenchman Who Made Experiments with Guines Pigs.

It is generally believed that excessive, or even moderate, drinking of water is conducive to an increase of flock, and that therefore stout people should carefully avoid nature's beverage. That the direct contrary is really the case is the statement made by Henri De Parville in the Journal Des Dehats, Paris. M. De Parville states his case in part as fol-

"The fact that drinking water makes one thin instead of fat has recently been clearly shown by M. Maurel in his experiments with guines pigs. This investigator injected into a guinea pig 25 grams of water at six a. m. and 25 grams at six p. m., the experiments being continued for three days. During this time the animal took 72 grams of bran, 265 grams of carrots and 210 grams of carrot stalks. The total quantity of water in the food was 130 grams, so that the entire amount of water taken each day was 180 grams.

"During the water treatment the animai lost four grams each day. After the interval of three days had passed the guines pig was given 63 grams of bran. 262 grams of carrots and 200 grams of corn stalks, but no water. Notwithstanding this fact, however, the animal gained in weight each day. The experiment was pursued in an inverse sense, the results being an increase in weight without water of two grams each day and a decrease with water of eight grams a day. The experiment has been performed in other ways, which have led to the same conclusion. For example, MM. Dehove and Flamant gave a patient four liters of an infusion for a month without producing a variation in weight, while M. Flamant himself drank 3,250 grams of liquid for seven days in place of his usual quantity of 1,250 grams without producing any increase in weight."

DUCK FARMS IN CHINA.

One of the Enterprises Conducted with Profit Along the Extensive Canals.

There are duck farms all along the canals in China. These are profitable Chinese canals, as a rule, considering the population upon them and their waried uses, are cleaner than canals in the United States, says the Chicago Chronicle. There are few, if any, factories to contaminate them. The Chinese use of certain sewage for fertilization also prevents contamination to a great extent. 'The canal water is used for laundry, bath and culinary purposes indiscriminately. A canal in the United States could never be what it is in China, but the Chinese have a number of clever devices and ideas in connection with canals which can be adopted in the United States with

proût. The Grand canal system in China has existed in almost its present shape since about the time Columbus discovered America. The Grand canal itself, extending from Hangchau, to Peking, is about 1,000 miles long. Much of it is banked with stone, and all of it is in such condition that with the expenditure of a little money the system could be put upon a modern and effective basis. As it is, the canal handles practically all the internal trade of China and this trade is far greater than its foreign trade. The coming of railroads will affect the canals somewhat, but not so much as may be imagined, for the railroads will very largely build up a trade of their own. A little money will make China's canal system in the future what it has been in the past, the greatest on earth.

WHY THEY ARE TRAMPS.

Facts Gleaned by an Investigator Concerning the Tramp Fraternity.

An eminent professor who spent some time traveling about the country asked every tramp that he met why he didn't work. He interviewed 2,000 vagrants, and, classing them according to the reasons they gave for not earning their bread in an orthodox manner, we get the following:

Six hundred and fifty-three said they were willing to work, but could not obtain any; 445 could not give any reason that would hold water; 301 thought that no one ought to have to work, and if some people were foolish enough to do so-well, they intended living on those said people.

Four hundred and seven were on their way to procure work at distant towns. having letters in their possession promising them employment at the said towns, and the remaining 194 were waiting for relatives to die and leave them their money.

Automobile Railway.

The Hanover Rallway company is making trial trips from Hanover to Soltau with steam automobiles. The third-class carriages can take 33 passengers; the second-class have seven seats, and there are also seven standing places. There is no locomotive for driving these cars, but machinery in the carriage, which can be driven by one man. If these trial trips should prove satisfactory the scheme will be tried on a larger scale.

Racing from Pa. The clopers sped on in the red automo-

"Now that we have cloped," whispered the timid girl, as she clutched his sleeve, "do you think our money will last?" "Don't bother me about money,"

shouted the young man. "I'm wondering if the gasoline will last." Just then the lights of papa's pursuing machine flashed in the distance.-

Chicago Journal.

you read some light literature?"

reading my gas bill."-Washington Star.

WHAT IS A "RECTORINE"?

Simply the Graceful and Gracious Ascompaniment of the Rector's Daily Life.

It seems to the Chronicle that there is some misapprehension among certain of the diocesan clergy concerning the meaning of the word "rectorine." At this time, says the Indianapolis Church Chronicle, of recent date, when the diocese is looking forward to the advent of two or three new "rectorines," a thorough understanding of this word should obtain, in order that we may know what to expect of the "rectorines." and they know what to expect of us. Recently, in congratulating a rector upon the prospect of giving his parish a "rectorine." he wrote back, in terse and trenchant terms. "this parish will have no rectorine," and then he continued: "It is a source of amusement to me to hear of a feminine lay-rector."

Now a "rectorine" is not necessarily a "feminine lay-rector," whatever that may be. Established usage has not put any such odlous construction on the word. In saying this we have not the Century dictionary to fall back upon, or any dictionary; but why should the dictionary have a monopoly of all the good words? And "rectorine" is a good word; short, convenient and musical. The "rectorine" is not any more the "female rector" than the czarina is the female czar. She is simply the better part of the rector, the graceful and gracious accompaniment of his daily life. As the nectarine is something sweeter than nectar, why may not this analogy be applied to the rectorine? Not one who wields the "rod of empire." but whose tact mitigates the rod her husband

MEETING AN EMERGENCY.

Cornell Professor Who Was Not to Be Disturbed by Warring of the Elements.

Prof. Hiram Corson, of Cornell, is not only a great Shakespearean critic, but also a person who, upon occasion, knows how to meet an emergency with true Shakespearean elevation of soul, says the New York Times. It is told of him -and all good stories in that neighborhood are told of him-that he was once aroused from his nightly slumbers by is wife who had become frightened at

a thunderstorm. "Wake up, Hiram." she cried. The professor turned uneasily on his couch, but was sound asleep again in two secends. A blinding tash, followed almost instantaneously by a terrific peal of thunder, caused his terrified spouse to again ory: "Wake up! oh. do wake up, Hiram!" No response came beyond an inarticulate gurgle from the professor. succeeded by the regular breathing of

deep sleep. Another flash, more vivid than its predecessor, lit up the room, while the wind, tearing some bricks from the chimney, brought them rattling banging down upon the roof, accompanied by the sharp detonation of

"Hiram, wake up! the last day has come!" shrieked Mrs. Corson. "Wha-a-at; in the night?" queried the professor.

RAID ON IRISH NAMES.

Hebrews, Poles and Others in New York City Assume Celtic Patronymics.

There is an unwritten law on the East side among the immigrants from Russia and the adjacent regions of eastern Europe that a man may change his name if he thinks it is too long or too cumbersome to carry through life in America. Sometimes the changes produce surprises, says the New York Sun.

Thus under the name of Charles Connor on the card of an East side business man appears an announcement in Hebrew characters. There is in fact, nothing Irish about this Mr. Connor save the name.

In Essex street and the neighboring streets one sees on the shop windows among such names as Rosinky. Follovitz, Schulumski, Levy and Cohen, the names of Burke. McCarthy, Roberts, Jones, Smith, Baldwin, Green, White, Black, O'Brien and Prenn. The bearers of all these names are of the same race.

McCarthy has been for a long time a popular choice on the East side among Hebrew immigrants who abandon names difficult to spell or pronounce. Lately O'Brien has come into use. There are any number of Sullivans and Fitz-

Corn Biot in England. In 1767, irritated by the high price of provisions, the poor people of England rose in many parts and seized the corn from the flour mills, which they sold at reasonable prices, giving the money to the rightful owners-a well-conducted riot that caused a law to be passed against the eighteenth-century cornering of wheat. But, a severe winter following, the distress became so great that the London common council ordered \$5,000 to be subscribed out of the city funds and that "a subscription book should be opened for the donations of all well-disposed persons." "By this noble plan," says a writer of that time. "great numbers of people were happily relieved from the most abject state of distress."

Chances the Woman Must Take. A man is like a piece of cloth warranted to wash-and matrimony is the laundry. It may improve him, give him starch and freshen him up or it may take all the color out of him .--N. Y. Times.

Light Literature "You're getting gloomier every day," said the solicitous friend. "Why don't "That's the trouble now. I've been

OBEYED DOCTOR'S ORDER. Literal Obedience Almost Besalted

in Explosion of Dense Patient.

Dr. William Osler, formerly of Johns Hopkins, now regius professor of medicine at Oxford, was talking during his recent Canadian tour about the importance of precision in the writing of prescriptions, states the New York Tribune.

"Wherever a sentence may have two meanings," said Dr. Osler, "rest assured that the wrong meaning will be taken. Hence, it is important in prescriptionwriting and in directions to patients that the greatest clarity and precision be obtained.

"A young foreigner one day visited a physician and described a common malady that had befallen him.

The thing for you to do. the physiclan said, 'is to drink hot water an hour before breaklast every morning."

"'Write it down, doctor, so I won't forget it,' said the patient. "Accordingly the physician write the

directions down-namely that the young man was to drink bot water an hour before breakfast every morning. "The parient took his leave, and in a

week he returned. "'Well, how are you feeling?' the physician asked. "Worse, doctor, worse, if anything."

was the reply. 'Ahem. Did you follow my advice and drink hot water an hour before breakfast?

"I did the best sir," said the young man, 'but I couldn't keep it up more'n ten minutes at a stretch."

PITIES THE AMERICAN MAN. An Englishman Says Husbands in This Country Are Much

Abused.

The American man is more consistently considerate of and generous to women than any fellow on earth, and in no country does he get sharper snubbing for his pains. The handling of husbands by mives in America amounts to an art, a profession, almost a science says the London Chronicle. Based on the theory that the more one has to do the more one can accomplish, ladies who have hard-working, enterprising spouses simply retire from active life. If he manages his office and business satisfactorily, why not take over the house and servants?

What is known as a "good husband" in the States is a first-class, nonretiring money-making machine, who gives everything, asks nothing and brags ceaselessly of his wife's perfections. Should be presume to criticise a charred chop or a flat souffle or complain at the size of the draper's bills, he is set down as a brute, and the wife is pitied as a first-class martyr. For such sins as the above two men of my acquaintance were forced to live in hotels a year at a time. They had committed the crime of finding fault with the impercable sex and were reduced to subjection by having their homes taken from them.

For my part, I think the Briton's way is the best.

ONE ON THE "JEDGE."

Enterprising Visitor Became Conwinced That His Honor Was No Politician.

A corpulent negro woman came into the office of Judge George I. Chillia, of the South City court, in Kansas City, Kan., one morning lately and inquired for the "jedge," relates the Kansas City

"What can I do for you?" asked the

"Is you runnin' foh judge ag in?" she

"Yes I'm trying to get the nomination," the judge replied. "What's the 'sideration foh votes dis

"What!" almost yelled the judge, beginning to understand the drift of the conversation.

"Ah means," explained the negress, Figwores with one dollah er two dollahs

"Are you aware that it is a serious offense for a person to sell his vote?" sternly demanded the judge.

"Ah don't zartiy undahstan' yoh langwidge, jedge, but ef yoh means yoh ain't buyin' 'em, dat's all right. Ah beheve you'se no politishun nohow." And with this contemptuous parting shot she left the office.

New Vessel with a History.

The four-masted vessel Mary L. Newhall, which was launched recently in Maine, has a history. The frame is of live oak and probably the best ever built in that state. It was got out in 1862 by the United States government for a war vessel, and was sent to the Kittery navy yard. Before the keel was laid the great fight between the Merrimac and the Monitor came off, and the result changed the navies of the world. It was seen that wooden vessels were doomed, and the building of the ship was abandoned. The frame, still on the hands of the government, was sunk in Portsmouth harbor, and there remained 46 years under water, until purchased and raised two years ago.

away with the flashlight for taking photographs in rooms and after dark in the open. An incandescent gas burner, equipped with white cardboard reflectors, was used in a recent experiment with satisfactory results. The time of the exposure was from 15 to 20 seconds. The photographs when developed and

printed have all the appearance of the

Does Away with Flashlight.

A Frenchman has a means of doing

ordinary "flash." Calamitous.

It is said great joy often kills, but great sorrow does worse, for it drives people to writing poetry. - Chicago Chronicle.

WOULD TAX MONOPOLISTS. Wealthy Kansan Pavers Enactment of a Law Limiting One

Farm to a Man.

Topeka, Kan.-It is proposed to have Kansas compel the owners of land in excess of the amount necessary for a livelihood to pay an additional tax or license. Edwin Taylor, who owns more than 1,000 acres of the richest land in the state, is the father of the proposed legislation. Mr. Taylor says he has more land than he is entitled to; that he is a tand monopolist, and that he is willing to divide his property with smaller holders or pay an additional tax. Mr. Taylor is one of the advanced thinkers of the state, bosides being one of the state's wealthiest men. In a speech on the subfort before the State Horticultural society he said:

"There may be a discrepancy between my practice and my precept concerning land. I say in explanation that I have played the land game according to the rules in force, and I believe these rules. to be unjust and unwise. For my part, I believe in one wife and one farm for one man, and I would have the laws so changed that Mormonism in either would

be impossible. "Monopoly is one of the words with which the American public is impatient, and the meanest monopoly of all is the monopoly of land, outside of the requirements of a home and a livelihood. It is a monopoly that will not always last. We can choose between the gradual extinction and its going out in strife and distress. If you are disposed to laugh at my dismal prophecy bear in mind that both the north and south either laughed or reviled at the earlier abolitionists. I draw no parallel between the situations; I merely say that a wrong thing is not a safe thing, and that land monopoly, beyoud the reasonable limits of a homestead or the basis of a livelihood, whether measured by the golden rule or the good of the state, is wrong."

RABBITS ARE TOO CHEAP.

Price Received Will Not Pay for Ammunition So Missouri Farmers Stack Arms.

Clarence Mo -The rabbit industry of Shelby county is just past the boontide of its boom for this season. This is the shipping point for a hunting territory nearly 50 miles in extent. The crop is even more plentiful than last year, and had prices remained at the starting figure-75 cents a dozen-nearly twice as many rabbits would have been brought

in before the season was over. In the early part of December wagons with high sideboards came in every day. full and running over with the little animals One dealer purchased and shipped 12,000 and another handled nearly 10,000. Not many rabbits are sold on the local

market. Hunting parties of boys were organized back in the country, and prizes awarded the ones' returning with the most game at nightfall. There was no tack of targets, it was only a question of ammunition. The game was purchased by the small error scoads your a and when a wagon lord had accumulated it was handed to Clarence and sold to the shippers. The cabbits were strong on wires, in lots of lix or a dozen, crated and sent

out the same day they were purchased. Chicago furnished the bisgest market and Clared e was pouring enough rabbits in there to fined a whole town, when New York began getting rabbits from some where at a reduced rate and prices in Mrs our was t down to three cents aplece. The bonters of Shelby county immediately stacked arms and went out

of the rabbit business It is noteworthy that farmers care very little for rabbits as food, but they are perfectly wanted to furnish them to their city cousins if they pay the price of ammunition and wear on boots.

GOLD MINE RIGHT IN TOWN Old Prospector Digging Callar at Sparks. Nev., Uncovers Quartz

of High Value. Reno. Nov.-While excavating for a cellar in the new railroad rown of Suarks, Earnest Vans, an old miner from California, dug up several pieces of gold-bearing quartz float. This excited him and he continued to dig, and in a short time uncovered more rock of the

same nature. The ore is very rich and in some pieces of it the gold can readily be seen. The sand in which the rock was imbedded was black and, upon being panned, gave

high values in the precious metal. The old man searched for hours for a ledge, but could find only a narrow stringer of ore, which gave high values, but which appeared to be isolated from any other gold-bearing ore. The discoveery created considerable excitement in; the town, and also in Reno, but as the property is owned by A. A. Hibbard of this city, no claims have been located

Doctors Must Remein in Jail. The four doctors who attended the late crown princess of Korea have been imprisoned in a dungeon since last November, the time of her death, and will remain prisoners until the widowed crown prince will have married again. The princess' body is still lying in state and will not be buried until next June, eight months having to clapse, according to local custom, before the hurial takes place. In the meantime all marriageable women in Korea have to postpone their weddrags until the crown prince taken a second wife.

Acme of Meanness.

A man has been arrested in New Jersey for swindling people by selling them glass eyes that were not what he represented them to be. The champion mean man seems at last to have

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS