William H. Shelton, the artist, returned recently from a visit to Japan. While there he was impressed much by the Japanese police, says the Washington Post. He came away with the idea that the Japanese police department was much superior to other police departments, principally owing to the apparent elimination of graft.

"While I was at Nagasaki," he says. "Capt. Barker, the American quartermaster there, lost a very fine uncut diamond. He hadn't any idea where he had lost it. He sent word to the police and a regular policeman came around and made inquiries about the stone.

With the politeness that is characteristic of the country, the policeman announced that it would give the pelice great pleasure to find it if they could. Several days later he appeared with the diamond, which must have been very hard to find, owing to its being in an uncut state.

"He handed it to Capt. Barker with a bow and walked away. True to his American instinct, Capt. Barker called him back, reached down into his pocket and pulled out a couple of yen, which he offered him.

"The policeman seemed to be both surprised and offended. It was against all the rules of the police, he said, to accept such gratuities from anyone.

"I found later just how serious it would have been if he had taken it. It seems that the policemen in Japan are recruited from the middle class and punishment for anyone caught grafting means much more than dismissal from the service or imprisonment. It means loss of casts.

"A man dismissed from the police department for such an offense, no matter what his previous rank in society, becomes a marked man and is regarded as a coolie, the lowest class of society. As a coolie nothing is left to him but hard tabor for the rest of his days."

NEGRO IN THE WILD STATE

Tuskegee Traveler Thinks the Blacks of America May Help to Redeem Africans.

Horace Greeley Griffin, one of the three young negroes of Tuskegee training whom the German government borrowed and took to west Africa to show the wild negroes how to grow cotton, is at his Texas home again. He has had enough of west Africa. He doesn't like the wild negroes much better than he likes the tropical rains. Some of them he suspects of cannibal-Ism and the men are not so strong as they look, and honest toil is hateful

"One southern negro who has been used to labor." a correspondent quotes ung Griffin as saving, "can do more work in one day than a wild African can do in a week. The wild African looks ignorant, brutal and repulsive, and in truth they are brutes. They worship the devil and build mud idols to the devil. They believe in the existence of a God, but they think that he is too good to be of any use to them. They say that God will not fight for them, while the devil is a good fighter and loves a fight above anything else.

"I think that the institution of slavery as we once had it in the United States was a blessing -a God's blessing. The negroes of America have been redeemed by it from bell and degradation, and it may be that God has prepared them to redeem the dark conti-

ONE FLAW IN HIS COURAGE Evelyn's Papa Was a Man Without Fear Save That of His Better Half

Evelyn is the little daughter of a Marshall county family, relates the Kansas City Journal. She is very timid. Her Jather, finding that sympathy only increased this unfortunate tendency, decided to have a serious talk with his little daughter on the subject of her foolish fears.

"Papa," she said, at the close of his lecture, "when you see a dow ain't you Traid?" "No: certainly not, Evelyn."

"When you see a horse, ain't you Traid?"

"No, of course not." "When you see a dog, ain't you

"fraid?" "No!"-with emphasis.

"When you see a bumblebee, ain't you 'fraid?"

"No!"-with scorn "Ain't you 'fraid when it thunders?"

"No!" with foud laughter. "Oh, you allly child "

'Papa," said Evelyn, solemnly, "ain't you fraid of nothin' in the world but

Small Boy in the Country. A Perry mother sent her small boy to the country and after a week of anxjety received this letter: "I got here all right, but I forgot to write before. A feller and I went out in a boar and the boat tipped over and a man got me out. I was so full of water that I didn't know anything for a long time. The other boy has to be buried after they find him. A home kicked me over and I've got to have some money for fixin' my head. We are going to set a barn on fire to-night, and I should smile if we don't have some hally fun. I am going to bring home a tame woodchuck if I can get him in my trunk." - Kansas City Journal.

Met with Sudden Death. "Woll, Giles, where's your dog?" "Dead! Poisoned."

"How's that "" "Bit the missus."-Half Holiday.

NOVEL USES FOR GLASS. May Be Utilized as Building Material and Paving Blocks in

the Near Future.

It is to be hoped there is nothing more than coincidence in the simultaneous invention of glass houses by an lowan and of glass paving bricks by a Parisian, says the Chicago Tribune, for if the two inventions should come In contact the architect might have tobegin over again. The natentee of the glass house proposes to attach brackets to the beams of the floors of the steel framework of his structure to support two walls of opalescent wire glass, the insulating dead air in the 12-inch space between the two walls preventing the loss of heat in winter and its entrance in summer. It is claimed that buildings constructed in this manner will be more free from drafts than under present conditions, that they can be satisfactorily heated with a quarter less fuel than buildings of brick construction, and that the absence of windows shuts out dust, smoke, odors and insects, and allows of any arrangement of the floor plan desired. The Prench inventor in question aims in cheapening paving bricks, utilizing for his invention old glass obtained from broken bottles, window panes, etc., as the raw material. The bricks now being tested in Paris are laid on a foundation of concrete, with a wooden template one-fifth of an inch thick between the bricks. I'p to the present the new material does not appear to wear as well as stone, but it is the belief of the city officials that the thinness of the bricks now laid makes them too fragile. They suggest making them four inches thick and laying them on a foundation of sand, as stone blocks are laid, since, on the present bed. they have proved too noisy.

JOBS THAT LAST FOR LIFE. Employes of the English Government

Pass from Salary List to Pension Roll.

"Once a civil servant always a civil servant," appears to be the motto of the English civil service, for unless one proves dishonest or an extraordinarily poor workman, states the New York Herald, he is retained in service until the age limit is reached and the salarydist is exchanged for the pension

Unlike the civil service in the United States, there is no strong partisanship; appointees hold their positions, no matter which party may be in power.

The pay is not large, even in view of the small cost of living in England. Fifteen dollars is about the limit of weekly payment in the post office department, though some of the executive positions pay as high as \$2,000 a year. The excise department is a favored branch, the pay starting at \$250 a year. This is raised by a yearly increase of \$25 until the pay reaches \$400. and after a year is jumped to \$575. From there on the pay jumps rapidly to \$1,250 yearly, and if the officer is fortunate in at last arriving at the dignity of collector he draws \$4,000 yearly.

Parliamentary clerkships run from \$500 to \$3,000 a year, and the navy department will run a clerk up to \$3,000 if he reaches the importance of fleet paymaster.

In spite of the small salaries the places are eagerly sought, since it means a life position, with a pension for one's declining years.

PLAYGROUND OF A NATION.

Where Nature Has Been Exceedingly Generous in the Bestowal of Her Favors.

What is there anywhere that can be even compared with the marvels of the heart of the playground, the Yellowstone National park? Here in one place are terraces surpassing those of New Zealand, geysers far more wonderful than those of Icoland, waterfalls more stupendous than those of Cumberland or Killarney, hot springs of greater heat and mineral springs more marked than those of the Auvergne, pools of incomparable beauty, with bear, deer, elk, buffalo and eagles to give life to the scene, the whole set among canyons of glowing tints and crags of beetling height, while all the region is easily accessible on splendid government-built roads, policed by United States troops. This is the playground par excellence. Some day, says the World To-Day, the weary ones of France and Germany will fall into line and spend their summers in the Rockles. To the uninitiated this will allsound like characteristic American brag; to the initiated, as a weak understatement of the facts.

Oil for Rough Seas.

The literal pouring of oil on troubled waters resembles the metaphorical application of the wise saw in that it is most difficult of accomplishment where most needed, ahead of the ship in trouble. Shells filled with oil and fitted with an explosive portion and detonator or time fuse and fired from a cannon have given only indifferent results. It is now proposed to supersede tham with a hollow wooden projectile having one end covered by a waterproof fabric or even stout paper, which will yield on impact with the sea and allow the oil to escape.- Chicago Tri-

Culture.

"I suppose your son's European trip had a noticeable effect in the way of broadening his culture, did it not?

"I should say it did," replied Waddington Scadds. "He'd as soon think of jumpin' off'm the roof as to eat supper without havin' on one of them pea jackets with a silk collar." - Chicago Record-Herald.

UNCLE SAM AS A DIGGER. TIN A MANGROVE FOREST.

When It Comes to Canal Excavating the French Are Far Behind Him.

The best monthly record made by the French when the operations were at their height was the removal of 25,000 cubic yards of earth and rock from the Culebra cut. Last month the Americans completed a total excavation of 128,000 cubic yards, reports the Philadelphia Ledger.

On the last day of March two modtern 95-ton steam shovels, constructed in Milwaukee, and five 70-ton shovels were at work, and on that day 6,400 cubic yards of earth and rock were removed.

This is merely the beginning of the introduction of modern effective machinery. The engineers purpose to use from 120 to 130 of these steam shovels and as one is received every two weeks, five years will elapse, at the present rate of manufacture of the shovels, before the full equipment is

In fact, one of the great problems is to get the machinery made, and the chief engineer declares that not until the expiration of eight years, or two years before the end of the time allotted for the completion of the canal.

will the ultimate force be in operation. There is now employed along the canal a force of 4,500 laborers and additional men are taken on as fast as they arrive and apply for work. Within a short time the men will be worked in night shifts by electric light, as well as by day, and when the operation is well under way the construction work "will be driven day and night," with as many thousands of laborers as may be crowded along the canal without interfering one with another.

UNWARRANTED ASSUMPTION

Misdirected Witticism of Young Professor Recoils Upon His Own Head.

It was at the summer school for teachers. The professor of sociology was young and good-looking, also he was lecturing, relates the Chicago Record-Herald Sunday Magazine.

At the end of the first form sat the substitute teacher. She too was young. and her gown of shimmery stuff was immensely becoming to her Of the latter fact the substitute teacher was entirely aware, so she sat with downcast eyes and seemed demurely unconscious when the professor of sociology addressed some of his most brilliant remarks directly to herself.

The professor of sociology was speaking of marriage; but somethinghis youth perhaps, or the subtle influence of the summer weather-had lightened the gravity of his theme in such wise that he handled it playfully. and half reverently, half humorously, he quoted the final sentences of the ceremony used by the church. His voice was pleasant, the last words of the well-known formula falling mellifluously from his lips. As he ended, he turned again with a smile and a bow to the substitute teacher.

"There!" he said impressively, "See how easily you are given away?" The substitute teacher raised her shy eyes. "Am I-am I to infer." she hesitated innocently, "that the gentleman in the case has been sold?"

FEW HIGH TONNAGE CRAFT

There Are Only Eighty-Nine Above 10,000 in the Whole World To-Day.

Statistics published in France estimate the total tonnage of the world's merchant marine at 32,642,000, and the number of vessels at 24,853, about equally divided between steam and sail. The tonnage of the former, however, is much the larger, being about 30,000,000, against 6,500,000 for sailing

vessels. While the building of big and bigger ships has been a feature of the business for the last quarter of a contury, the greater part of the world's goods is still carried by vessels of moderate tonnage. The number of ships of more than 10,000 tons is only

England leads in tonnage with 6,000. 000. America follows with 3,500,000. Germany and France having each about half as much. The list dwindles down along the line of the other maritime countries, reaching its minimum in Argentina, which has about 25,000

plantation, near Greenville, Miss. states some facts of interest as to the opportunities offered in the south for

Italians on Southern Plantations.

The manager of the great Corbin

Italian immigrants. Speaking from personal observation he says that as a cotton grower the Italian is in every way superior to the negro, and that he will make an average profit of \$5 from cotton where the negro makes \$1. Ho. thinks that the only solution of the labor problem in the Mississippi delta is to be found in the encouragement of Italian immigration.-N. Y. Times.

One Day of It Enough.

A story is told of a young man who went to work for a stingy farmer out in Kansas. At three o'clock the next morning the farmer called him to begin the day's labors. A few minutes later the hired man went downstairs with his grip, "You ain't going to take that grip to work, are you?" asked the farmer. "Naw." replied the man, scornfully, "but I am going to find some place to stay all night."

Citing an Exception. "Art." said the moralizer, "can never successfully imitate nature."

"Oh, I don't know," rejoined the demoralizer. "How about artificial ice?" -Chicago Daily News.

Graphic Description of an Australian Wild with Its Unapproach-

able Nativen-An explorer in northern Australia thus describes his vain efforts to make friends with some wild natives who ran away from him: "We had hardly begun to move from cover when we saw several dusky figures running across the salt marsh into the mangroves. We started in pursuit at a run, but when we reached the camp we found it, as we expected, deserted, The fire was still burning and the haste in which the black fellows had left their camp was evidenced by the fact that they had forgotten to take with them what must have been the largest part of their weapons. Boomerangs, spears, throwing sticks, nulahs, shields and remnants of a halfconsumed meal of roasted baobab nuts were lying about the place. We followed the retreating savages into the Mangroves.

'We traced the diverging footmarks through the dense, dark, eerie, smelling inferno with the instinct of sleuthhounds. Nothing will ever obliterate from my memory the impressions that hunt made on my mind. The place seemed to be the very heart of the huge solitude in which we were situated. Overhead there was a dark. closely knitted canopy of leaves. Only here and there a patch of ineffably blue sky that appeared to be immeasurably distant gleamed through rifts in the firmament of foliage. Through the apertures the sun shot vertical shafts of golden light that counterfeited gilded pillars, except where their masses were broken by contact with

the trunks and limbs of the trees. "Slender flying buttresses vaulted away from the trunks in long series of elliptical arches. The whole scheme or design of the jungle might have been that of an unimaginable medineval cathedral conceived in a nightmare and executed in a delirium. It seemed to be peopled by unseen, stlent, thinking, feeling beings capable of action and the twisted and contorted boughs and branches stretching out hideous, mud-stained arms that appeared ever intent on catching and holding one in their loathsome embraces intensified the impression" At last, baffled, they gave up the hunt.

CHINA STILL HAS PIRATES. Attacks on British Steam Launches and Boats Are Frequently Made.

Piracy continues to flourish in the Canton delta and along the coast. During the past year the British consul at Canton reports there were half a dozen serious attacks on British steam launches. Chinese passenger launches and boats are frequently held up and plundered. Complaints are made to the local authorities, but nothing is really done to protect trade. Even within the precincts of the harbor pirates and robbers plunder and loot with impunity.

"Altogether the situation is hopeless, and one is forced to despair of good government under the present officials. The prople are left to protect themselves as best they may, and such is their fear and dread of having anything to do with the Chinese yamen authorities that no man, whatever his grievance or wrong, will readily venture to apply to the magistrate for assistance or redress. This insecurity of life and property tells seriously against all development of trade.

"From the silk districts come repeated complaints of blackmailing by local bandits. Foreign goods sent into the interior under transit passes are pirated. and only in one single instance, after 18 months of arguing and battling with the officials, has a consul succeeded in obtaining the recovery of a few articles and the arrest of a few men whom the magistrates gravely gives out as being the culprits. In one case a Hongkong junk was pirated and the cargo landed in broad daylight under the eves of the local officials by the villagers, yet nothing is done and no redress can be obtained."

Mechanical Sail Furler. The principle of the common roller window curtain has been adapted to the handling of the sails of vessels by a retired sea captain, who has invented a system by which the sails can be raised or reefed from the deck without the use of steam power. Practically, the device consists of a set of winches placed at the foot of each mast, whereby a single man by turning a crank can furl, or reef a sheet in one minute. These winches are so arranged as to take up their own slack by reversing cogs, the sails themselves working on sleeves encircling the yards. By sltpping a brake the sheets are allowed to unfurl themselves by a system of counterbalancing weights. With one seaman working at the cranks the yards can be braced, eased away, or hauledaround before the wind in a few minutes, and the sails can be held at any desired angle to the wind.-Chicago

Observation Cars.

That travelers through the Rocky mountain region may enjoy to the full the scenic delights of the picturesque canyons and mountains open top observation cars are to be run on daylight trains during the summer. These cars will be of modern construction, entirely open, with low sides and no tops, and seating ¶2 passengers.

Odd Epileptic Cure.

Dried chrysanthemum leaves smoked in a pipe are reported from England to have been the means of effecting an unlooked-for improvement in a person who had been a victim for 15 years to frequent and violent epileptic fits. The patient finds that the flowers act best when mixed with cascarilla bark.

Beition bebeitmalaire \$3.90. ...

ABOUT ELECTRIC WELDING.

Introduction of the American System Is Creating Entirely New Manufactures,

The making of wire fences in continuous rolls is the latest development in automatic electric welding, states the Chicago Tribune. A number of galvanized from wires are fed to the machine parallel to each other and from another reel placed transversely to these wires lengths of wire are cut off and fed horizontally across them. Where the hortzontal and vertical wires intersect small transformers weld them together, after which the wires are moved forward and the operation repeated. The application of electric welding by the American process, now attracting attention in England, promises to be greatly extended as soon as the projects for the installation of large electric power stations supplying current at cheap rates come into operation. The introduction of this system has already caused a complete modification of existing methods of manufacture and in some cases created entirely new manufactures. Among its many advantages over the ordinary forge or gas blow pipe are the facts that finished work can be welded and repaired without damage, the operation may be watched as it proceeds, and the work is done with great rapidity, a few seconds sufficing for most work and in small pieces the weld is made almost instantaneously. Tests showing the almost perfect homegenous weld obtained give a ratio of weld to solid of 91.9 per cent. for electrically welded iron bars, compared with 89.3 per cent, for the best hand work. The cost of the fuel is about the same for either process. but the rapidity of the electric operation effects a great saving in labor.

TWO HOUSES OF CONGRESS

How It Came About That the National Legislature Is Thus Divided.

I have heard a story-never saw it in print-of Washington and Jefferson sitting together at a ten table while the convention of 1787 was framing the constitution, says a writer in The interior. They were talking about the article which makes the congress consist of two houses. Jefferson asked why more than one was needed. Would not one house directly representing the people be enough?"

It was "good form" then to pour one's tea from the cup into the saucer to cool it before drinking and Jefferson was just then using that precaution not to scald his mouth.

Washington took that to illustrate his idea-that legislation by the larger and more popular body might sometimes be hasty and hot, and need cooling in the more deliberate senate

The nation has taken its legislative ten that way for more than a century, Some men think that it has been thus saved from some pretty bad scaldings. But lately some others are asserting that some good tea is spoiled in that way. Possibly both these things are true.

STRICTLY AMERICAN TREE. Shellbark Hickory Is a Variety That Will Grow in No Other

Country.

The abelibark hickory is perhaps the most interesting tree in this country, because it is a strictly American tree and so wedded to its native soil that it refuses to become a citizen of any other country. In the sturdiness of its roots and trunk, in the juidness in which it flings out its tough branches, in its strong individuality and character and in its general fruitfulness. not forgetting the uncouth roughness of bank it further manifests its strong Americanism. Its winter buds are large and interesting. Early in spring the dark brown outer scales fall away The inner scales then lengthen to protect the growing leaf, sometimes attaining a length of five inches. These inner scales are marvels of beauty, both in texture and in color. The body of the scale is thick and leathery, while its surfaces, especially the inner, are soft, with a silken nap gorgeously dyed in yellow, orange and red, suggesting the chimney corner and the heat which glows from a hickory log-

Chinese Invention.

China has apparently started digging at the top of the heap of improvements made during her centuries of lethargy. The first patent the Chinese government has ever granted is for an electric lamp invented by an inhabitant of Nanking, the old capital of the empire, who describes his invention as the "bright moonlight," and asserts it is far superior to the foreign glow lamps hitherto sold at Shanghai and other cities. Further indications of the empire's awakening are seen in the closing of an American contract for the building of the first stoel mill in China in the vicinity of Shangha, the machinery including an electrically operated furnace charging plant.-Chicago l'ribune.

Malay Pishermen.

Crews of Malay fishing vessels in the Indian coean are thus described by a traveler: "Some of the Malays have not had features, but others again are awful-looking villains. Every one has him creese, or a sort of chopper, at his side, and with bright red lips and black eeth, caused by chewing the berel nut. looks anything but invitin; or faseinsting. The crew live principally on rice and the fish they carch. They carry a lot of coconnuts and coconnut ill, and apparently for a luxury a sort of sweetmeat made of a coarse treacle and rice mixed together and firmit pressed into bamb:os."

Grounds for Divorce. The Dakotas.-N. Y. Press.

FRENCH PENSION SCHEME.

TO THE OWNER WAS ARREST OF THE PARTY OF THE

Covernment Life Insurance Is Paid Out in Annuities to Poor Subscribers.

Washington.-For more than half a century the French government has been experimenting with schemes for establishing old-age pensions, the first act having been passed June 18, 1850, says United States Consul General John K. Gowdy in a report from Paris to the department of commerce and labor. The plan then tried was not profitable, for the government allowed investors five per cent., which was more than it could itself get, and the rate of interest had to be reduced. Shortly after the war with Germany (in 1873) the number of depositors had greatly increased, and in 1882 there was a deficit of \$8,400,000. To make up this the government in 1884. made over to the Caluse des Retraites a sum of \$50,874,400 in government. stock, the interest on which-with a small annual grant-amounting in all to \$2,515,000, would, it was calculated,i meet past and future losses.

In 1895 the act at present in force was passed, but the question is still one that gives the minister of finance much anxiety, and it is not unlikely! that some future changes will be

At the present time deposits are received from any person, regardless of age, but the amount may not exceed 500 france (\$96.50) in the course of a year. An account may be opened for a child of three years of age; a married woman may deposit money with-

out her husband's consent. At any age between 50 and 65 (or earlier in case of permanent disability to work) the depositor may claim 1 his annuity, which is calculated according to the amount of his deposit. and interest and the probabilities of life, but the annulty may not exceed 1,200 france (\$231.60). An annuity not exceeding 360 francs (\$69.60) is not limble to seizure for debt. In rural districts the tax gatherer is empowered to receive deposits, and in many factories a certain percentage is deducted from the wages and paid to the Caisse in the workman's name. A branch of the Caisse may be founded in any town or village, with the permission of the prefect of the department, and there are about 2.360 of such branches, with nearly 340,000 depublicers.

OUST BORE BY ELECTRICITY

Gotham Mayor Has New Telegraphic Scheme by Which He Rids Himsalf of Delegations.

New York -- Mayor McCiellan is going to try a new method of getting rid of bores. Several days ago a representative of an invention for the transmission of writing by electricity suggested to the mayor the advisability of having his office equipped with the device. He explained it would be so much easier for the mayor to communicate with his staff by this method than by having his subordinates

respond to a buzzer. The major at first was not taken with the idea, but John O'Brien, his private secretary, saw its possibilities. He posited out that the transmitting pad could be attached to a shelf under the mayor's desk and that is could be connected with O'Brien's room, so that when the mayor wanted a siege laterand mit bei Weriffel bube ter der Westeld

be to jot down a call for assistance. "You see, it's this way " O'Bmen. explained, if you want to get free of some one all you need to do is to draw out; the shelf and write 'Help.' I'll read the message and - "

"You'll say that the delegation of something or other is in waiting outside to tender me a formal indorsement for another term, or that the board of estimate is in session waiting for me?" queried the mayor.

Exactly," responded O'Brien. "All right. Let 'em put it in." and now O'Brien is waiting for the first victim.

FAIR HERMIT'S QUEER LIFE. All Alone, with Only Eight Dollars a Month in Sure Income, Vet-

eran's Widow Lives.

Strausstown, Pa.-Within sight of Fort Northkill lives Mrs L. M. Fehr, widow of a veteran of the civil war, on a pension of \$8 per month, in an eight-roomed house, surrounded by a garden and a fertile lot on which she raises enough to sustain herself.

Although her hair is silvery white, she is as active as many a younger dame, and cultivates her own garden. Her potato patch produces enough tubers for her annual wants, and her fuel she picks from the mountain. side, carrying in the odd sticks during summer time.

For tea she uses the swee'-flavored. golden rod, known to many as the Blue Mountain tea, and earns many a dime picking berries of all kinds and

Thus, all alone with her bens, and nearly three miles from town, she never heless reads the daily news in the papers that friends bring to her.

Its One Virtue.

It's no use putting up a protest against the hoop skirt, declares the Philadelphia Press. If the dressmakers say so, it will come along again and crowd you off the sidewalk and assert itself generally. The hoop skirt is not a bandsome thing. but it has to have room.

Just a John

Paris says the Japanese are not being. taken seriously. It does not appear that they are being taken at all, though ther are clearly taking the Russians seriously enough, declares the Louisville Cour-

Cet très rénandue en Louisiane et dans tous les Etats du Sud. Sa publicité offre dons au commerce des avantages exceptionnelle. Prix de l'abonnement? sur l'annuelle : Entiere Occidienne 132.06