#### BRITON'S IDEA OF AMERICA

Humerous Twaddle About "Soul-Depressing Solitudes" Through Which Weston Walked.

People who are acquainted with the Phaislyzing solitudes" of Iowa and Nebraska may be interested in the St James' Budget's description of Wes iten's last walk. The Budget is published in London. It says: Imagine the awful, soul-depressing solitudes through which he has spassed. In vast tracts of Nevada no bird sings, no plant grows; for hundreds of miles there is not a tree nor a house. The walker's only companlous are skeletons of animals deyoured by jackals and coyotes; 'simple immensity of reddish sand,' as Benor Scarfoglio described it. The crossing of the Rockies provides more variety, but scarcely more exhibarating conditions for the pedestrian. The road too often is a mere mule path, rough-backed and subject to cataracts

of stones. "From the Rockies Weston would descend into Nebraska and its colossal sea of grass, hypnotizing in its immensity. By and by the terrific wastes are sparsely sprinkled with windmills and herds of horses as Iowa is entered, but still there are endless hopelessly flat barren fields, most melancholy, most miserable.

"Buch are the concomitants of a walk through the western states of America. Through these paralyzing solitudes Weston kept up 45 miles a day."

## KAISER'S OLD DRILL MASTER

Death of the Sergeant Who Taught Him and His Sister Military Exercises as a Lad.

The saiser's old drill sergeant, Robert Lucke, has just died in Berlin at the age of 78. The kaiser never forgot him and whenever his eye fell upon him among the bodyguard at the palace he used to address a cheery word to him.

In 1863 young Prince Wilhelm, then eleven, and his sister. Princess Charlotte, now the wife of the hereditary Prince of Saxe Meiningen, were enstrusted to Lucke to be drilled in milstary exercises, extension motions they were called, and in shooting at a target with miniature rifles. Lucke left his regiment in 1867 and went finto the royal bodyguard, but after a Hew years was taken into the mess office of the First Life Guards at Pots-

The last time the kaiser saw him was at a jubilee of the regiment, when after the parade was over he shook .him by the hand and said: "Well, my dear Lucke, but for you I would never 'have got on as I have."

.. . 1. 6. 4.

Sept 10

Judas Had the Best of It. When the Passion play at Oberammergau was in progress an American visitor spent much of his spare time looking up the actors in their homes and chatting with them about the play. One complaint he met almost everywhere was the tremendous fatigue the performers suffered at the close of the eight-hour performance. Coming to the bome of Hans Zwink, the Judas of the play, he found the painteractor in quite a cheerful mood. "Does like performance fatigue you so much, too?" the tourist inquired. Ere Herr Zwink could reply his little ten-yearold son chirped up: "Pa, he don't get so tired. He hangs himself at three o'clock and comes home two hours betore the others."

Ozone for a Library. Chicago's public library, for several grears subjected to much adverse criticlam because of its inadequate ventilation system and the attendant ills, has been provided with what is said to be the first osone apparatus used wholly isfor the purpose of supplying fresh air for a large building.

The electric osone generator is said to be the largest ever built for such a purpose. It is six feet high, eleven inches in thickness and one foot wide. and consumes six amperes of electric current an hour. It is inserted in an opening of an air duct, between a fan and a spray of water used for washing the air, which, passing through it, becomes charged with osone.--Popular Mechanics.

Farm for Fur-Bearing Animals. Some Germans have established a farm for the breeding of otters, foxes,? sables, martens and other fur-bearing, animals of the same character. The farm embraces 1,200 acres, which is leased at a very low rental, but if was found necessary to erect a fence around the establishment, and as this had to be very secure it was covered with sheet metal, and the cost is said % to have been about \$67,000. This figwro will be still further increased by the fact that it has now been found necessary to continue it underground for a depth of several feet, on account of the burrowing propensities of the animals which it is desired to Confine.

Possible Scelat Change in England. It will be interesting to see what will be the effect upon feminine manmers of the severer standards of decorum certain to be established in King George's court. In the nine iyears of Edward there was great laxity at point of conventional manners, and it is within that period that fashionable women have adopted the cocktail, the cigarette, with some other practises equally unedifying. That George will have none of this is a practical certainty. In other times the court practice has established the seand rule. How it will be now time will tell

## BERLIN'S VERY RICH MISER

Albrecht Plaut, Though Possessed of Enormous Wealth, Lived In the Utmost Simplicity.

In the death of Privy Councilor Albrecht Plaut, the most notorious miser and wealthiest resident of the German capital, has been lost. Eighty years old, he was a daring speculator who built up a fortune as head of a firm of brokers. Fifty thousand dollars was his annual payment in income tax. Yet he had no servants and lived in a tiny Charlottenburg flat.

His luncheon generally consisted of thin bread and butter, which he took with him to the Zoological gardens almost every day. It is related that in an expansive mood one day he spent two cents for a glass of beer at a bar in the gardens. Not liking the beer he sent in a demand to the manager for the return of the money, and did not stamp the envelope.

At a family gathering each guest found a covered dish before him; marked "A gift from Privy Councilor Plaut." But their anticipation was in excess of the reality-for inside was only an apple.

# CANNOT BRING HIS HAREM

Ruler of Slam Would Be Welcomed in This Country, but His Wives Are Barred.

Announcement that his majesty, King Chulalongkorn of Siam, is planning a visit to the United States already has caused much interesting discussion because the king has 40 wives, and he means to bring them along. Just whether he will be permitted to enter the United States with his harem is an interesting question. Various princes have started for this country with several of their wives, and at all times have been informed that only one wife would be permitted in this country. No king, however, ever has made a visit under such circumstances, and undoubtedly Prosident Taft will have a delicate diplomatic task before him in deciding the question. The king, however, means to stop in Honolulu, it is said, and perhaps the question will be adjusted there. In Hawaii there is a special law against polygamy, and the United States attorney of Honolulu says he means to follow the law if the king lands in Honolulu.

Two Novel Motor Cars. A motor car designed and owned by a gentleman of Calcutta has over the usual bonnet the enormous figure of a swan, the eyes of which are composed of prism lenses, which are lit up at night by electricity. The beak is made so that the exhaust can be sent through it, causing a noise like the hiss of a swan.

Met on a dark night, it is liable to cause as much fright among quiet going people as a Canadian dummy horse car which was exhibited some time ago. The dummy horse was fixed to the front of the car, the horn being attached to the dummy's mouth, while at night the eyes were lit up, a pair of brilliant green and red orbs glaring at passing vehicles.

A Plague of Ants. A singular state of things, and at the same time serious, exists in the commune of Gonfaron in Var. The fruit trees and all other products of the garden and even the fields bear an unmistakable odor of formic acid. The people are much concerned lest their produce be rendered useless, and application has been made to the ministry of finance for a grant of 20,000 francs to rid the district of the pests. which it is scarcely necessary to say consists of myriads of ants. The place of origin of these undesirable allens is Africa, and it is considered that they have been brought over with bales of cork.-London Globs.

What's in a Name? They were about to part. "By the way, old man," said the tail one, "when you are down my way, peck in some time."

"Where are you living?" asked the short one. "Why, Pekin, Ill."

"H'm! Getting to be a wit in your, old days? Well, when you are down by way drop in and have a bite." " Vhere are you located?" "Sandwich, Ill."

No Hypocrite. Ashley-Gus Wolfe has just bought a new suit--it cost \$9.63. Seymour-Nine eighty-two! It must be cotton, then.

Ashley-Of course it's cotton. Do you suppose he wants to be called a

Seymour—Called a hypocrite? Ashley-Certainly. Wouldn't be be called a "woif in sheep's clothing" if his suit was wool.

Chance for Improvement. After tickling the piano for a couple of hours, the fair maid paused long enough to ask:

"By the way, what do you think of those songs without words?" "With a little alteration," replied the matter-of-fact young man in the parior scene, "they would make a hit

with me." "How could they be improved?" queried the long-distance key

pounder. "By outting out the music, also," answered the masculine hammer

The "Few." All the world's a stage, except a few, and they are stage-robbers.-

### NICE CHAT ON MINSTRELSY

Policeman Recognized Kindred Spirit in Old Man He Had Been Forced to Arrest.

Policeman English of the Fifteenth and Locust streets station would rather do a song and dance to the accompaniment of applause than make half a dozen important arrests. He's built that way, musically inclined, and if there's a popular song which he doesn't know it's because it isn't

worth knowing. \* The other night he made the arrest of his life, and, if he does say so himself, there's not another man on the force that could have carried it off so

English never arrests an otherwise harmless intoxicated person unless he finds the man unable to navigate. The one at Fifteenth and Locust streets seemed to have lost his compass altogether. So English "collared" him.

"Use me gently, ol' chap," the prisoner pleaded; "I'm an ol' minstrel man. Oldes' end man you ever arrested."

"Well, isn't that nice," said English. "I'm a professional, too. End man's my line, too. Mostly amateur work now, but just you wait! Ever hear the story of the illuminating gas? No? Well, it hasn't leaked out yet. My latest. Pretty good. What?"

The inebriated minstrel liked it pretty well, but had one better, and told it. And so the battle of wits was waged until English shoved the old man regretfully into a cell and bade him goodnight.—Philadelphia Times.

#### ONE OF CARNEGIE'S "FINDS"

Some Good Stories Told on Millonaire Helped to Affluence by the Ironmaster.

They got to telling stories the other day about Alexander Peacock, the one of "Carnegie's young men" who proposes to erect a bronse statue to the ironmaster. Mr. Peacock is the former floorwalker in a Pittsburg department store who attracted Carnegie's attention by a Glasgow accent. It wasn't long afterward, according to the yarn, that Mr. Peacock was discovered sobbing in a corner of one of the Pittsburg clubs. "It's aye family trouble, laddle," said Mr. Peacock to a kind inquirer. "My wumman and me's had a bit disagreement. She says I ha' but sax meetions, and I'm sair-

I ha' na less than eight." But that story has been told before and is here repeated rather as an example of the Peacock candor than because of its newness. The latest presents Mr. Peacock as a guest at another Pittsburg home. He had taken up another millionaire for a drive in his auto-remember the Peacock auto story?

"Frick has four autos," said a friend to Peacock. Mr. Peacock at once got "Send out two more machines," said he, "an' that'll mak me saz."

Forbidden Tinder Boxes. Six large factories and three smallor workshops in Austria are working at high pressure, writes our Viennesc correspondent, to meet the orders for the tiny pocket tinder box which many smokers are now using instead of matches. The production is between 8,000 and 10,000 daily.

In Spain, Portugal, France and Rosmania the import of the tinder boxes is forbidden. Italy puts a tax of 1s 3d on each box, in order to make the price of the tinder box equal to that of the number of matches, estimated 3,000, that would be needed to replace the new apparatus. The minister of finance in Austria is considering the question of taxing the boxes.-London Daily Mail.

Art of Basketry. "It has been said by Mr. Mason of the National museum, in his wonder ful book on basketry, that there is not a weave of any kind, nor of any textile, that did not have its birth in the baskets made by our savage ancestors, nor, as far as is known, has there ever been a tribe in any part of the world that did not employ some form of basketry," said Fred S. Porter of San Francisco, a collector of objects and student of objects of art, who was seen at the Shoreham recently. "A craft of such antiquity is naturally of surpassing interest."—Washington

Thank beaven that a little illusion is left to us, to enable us to be useful and

Blessed Illusions.

agreeable—that we don't know exactly what our friends think of us-that the world is not made of looking-glass, to show as just the figure we are making. and just what is going on behind our backs! By the help of dear friendly Illusion, we are able to dream that we are charming-and our faces wear a becoming air of self-possession; we are able to dream that other men admire our talents-and our benignity is undisturbed; we are able to dream that we are doig much good—and we do a little.—George Eliot.

The Auto's Snap. "What I'd rather be than anything I can think of is an automobile," said the seedy looking man. "Good lord, what a wish," said his seedy companion. "They don't have

ne snap, automobiles don't." "Den't they?" said the envious tramp. "Just listen to this. Traveled 29,443 miles in two years and only washed three times. Three times, get that? Only washed three times in two years. That's an automobile, Don't have no snap, ch? Huh?"

## HOLLAND AND ITS TULIPS

Growth of the Flawer Is Now One of the Recognized Industries of the Country.

In going from Amsterdam to Copenhagen Mr. Roosevelt went from the scene of a great swindle of the seventeenth century to the scene of an equally notorious swindle of the twentieth century. Conrad Gessner had successfully transplanted the tulip from Constantinople to Germany in 1559. In the fore part of the seventeenth century, originating in the Netherlands, the "tulip mania" impovertshed investors all over Europe. As high as 13,000 florins-\$5,200-was paid for one bulb of the species known as Semper Augustus. Ownership, even in a single bulb, was frequently divided into shares; there was the wildest speculation on bulbs not yet in existence, by men who possessed not so much as a square foot of land for a garden. Large quantities of bulbs were sold on paper, far in excess of the number actually produced. When the crash finally came thousands of the speculators lost all they had. It was a long time before tulip culture in Holland recovered from the effects of the financial disaster that overtook the victims of the tulip mania. But when the sturdy common sense of the people returned they set to work in sober earnest to rationalize the cultivation of the flower, with the result that today there are 1,800 recognized varieties grown in the Netherlands and 8,200,-000 pounds of bulbs are shipped every year to the United States. Between The Hague and Haarlem in the season thousands of acres are given over to the cultivation of these beautiful flowers whose languorous incense monopolizes the air as their gorgeous colorings transform the earth into an oriental carpet.

#### WORKING WITH BABY ON BACK

Eskimo Woman Seems Little incommoded by Burden, and Infant is Comfortable.

It is surprising what work an Eskimo woman will undertake with a baby on her back. It is a common occurrence to see them bent down skinning seals or cleaning sealskins; it often makes one feel afraid the baby will roll out, but no such thing happens. Baby sits in its cozy quarters looking round and taking notice of att that is going on, or sleeps on quite unconcerned. The women even carry children of two or three years old in their hoods, and always have their hands free for other work. It is very amusing to watch the operation of taking a child from the bood. The little mortal is shaken round till it occupies a favorable position behind the mother's left shoulder. Another shake and a couple of jerks, and up comes baby on to the shoulder, where it looks like a bundle of rags. Over balancing it takes a plunge, head first, toward its mother's lap. Before arrival there, however, the infant turns a somersault and lands safely on its mother's knee, to be fondled and caressed and talked to in the way usual to mothers the wide world over. -From the Wide World Magazine, London.

# Remedy for Insomnia.

A woman who has suffered long from insomnia has made a discovery which she has never seen in any chapter of advice on this subject. She often wakes in the middle of the night with a nervous craving which is not hunger, but which she formerly strove to satisfy with food. Now she eats an apple or drinks the futce of one or two oranges. The acid in these fruits seems to "go to the spot" as nothing else does, besides which they have the advantage that they can be placed by the bedside on retiring, where they can be obtained later without getting up. The apples used must be rather tart and firm, like the Northern Spy. and sometimes it takes diligent search to find them. The oranges, too, serve the purpose better if they are not too sweet

No creature is more tidy than an ant, who cannot tolerate the presence of dirt on her body, says a writer in St. Nicholas. These little creatures actually use a number of real toilet articles in keeping themselves clean. A well-known authority says their toilet articles consist of coarse and finetoothed combs, hair brushes, sponges and even washes and soap. Their saliva is their liquid soap, and their noft tongues are their sponges. Their combs, however, are the genuine article and differ from ours mainly in that

they are fastened to their legs. The

ants have no set time for their toilet

operations, but stop and clean up

Cleanliness of Anta.

whenever they get soiled. A Dime Novel Guide. One night at the Campfire club Dr. William T. Hornaday, director of the New York Zoological park, was asked his opinion of a certain Rocky mountain guide. The director smiled, warily, He is the last man in the world to refuse a recommendation to any fellow being who has a shadow of right to one. He bedged.

"The last time I saw Hawkins," he said, 'he came into my office wearing a large diamond seart pin, stuck into a ready made necktie, a still larger. diamond in a ring on his little finger. and he had his mustache dyed. Now. if I were looking for a man to guide me into mountain fastnesses, or even across trackless plains. I-ah-well, what do you think about it yourself?"

## LOOKED LIKE A REVOLUTION

Staid Old Philadelphia Aristecrats Feared the Results of Recent General Strike.

Since the Philadelphia strike was settled and the old Quaker town has relapsed into its customary brooding quiet it has come out that a considerable portion of the staid old aristocracy, in which Philadelphia takes such pride, was in a state of nervous prostration the whole time.

At the beginning of hostilities, when the street car operatives went out on strike, it was thought the trouble would soon blow over, but when the general strike was called and it appeared as if the entire working class of the city was going to quit work and throng the streets several fidgety old dowagers decided that it was going to be nothing less than a French revolution in duplicate. Forthwith they prepared for a siege. Cellars were stocked with barrels of flour, cases of canned goods and stores of provisions of all kinds, to be held against the day of want and starvation. In some cases street doors were battened down and watchmen were placed on guard of nights. Now that the troubles have subsided and the city has resumed its wonted aspect of peace and sobriety, several prominent Philadelphia families find themselves overstocked with food stuffs, and are now wondering what they became so scared about anyhow. It is doubtful if such a piece of absurdity would have been possible in any other city in the country, but Philadelphia is an exception to all rules, especially Philadelphia's aristocracy.

#### APPEAL THAT PAPA HEEDED Little Daughter's Ingenious Plea Put

a Stop to the Plano Playing at Once.

A Philadelphia man who finds much amusement in playing rag-time melodies on the piano received a rude shock one evening recently at the hands of his daughter, a sweet little miss of some fourteen years.

It was warm and the house was wide open when the fond parent sat down at the plane and began "pawing the ivories" with unusual ardor. While he was playing his daughter came into the room with a companion. "Daddy, stop playing," she said.

Somewhat surprised the father wanted to know why he should cease entertaining himself. The little girl was not inclined to explain. Finally she said: "Why, the neigh-

bors have a lot of company." "Is that all?" commented daddy. with fine scorn. "Well, if they don't like my playing they can close their windows," and he attacked the piano with renewed vigor.

"Yes, but daddy," pleaded the daughter, as she glided over to her parent and put her arm over his neck, "they'll think it was I playing." That settled it. He stopped

To Look Angular.

No thin woman can afford to lose her temper. "Nothing," says a good authority, "will make you so angular or give your face such an undesirable look

as the free indulgence of your own

A girl who was thin to a really painful degree gained 80 pounds in 60 days on the following regime: Twelve hours' sleep a day, a well ventilated and cold room to sleep in, with plenty of fresh air all night; light coverlets for warmth and hot water bags at the feet if they were cold; loose, light clothing at all times, with plenty of space about the chest, shoulders and waist; a diet of cereals, cocoa, fresh fruits or starchy vegetables, potatoes, beans, etc., milk and cream-everything of a warming, fatproducing nature in the way of food; warm baths, though not too frequently.

Before and After. She had been invited up town to take lunch with a friend for the first time. The entrance was imposing. She began to wish she had put on her sown. She came near going home to put it on, when the girl at the desk motioned her to the rear of the lobby to the flat of her friend. She was ushered into the smallest hall she ever saw. She squeezed through it into about the smallest flat sile had ever laid eyes on. Her friend showed her

around it "lan't it the limit?" she asked. "I could put the whole four rooms into one room of the house I lived in in Penneylvania."

"It is a fine sample of a flat," said she. But she didn't tell her that the entrance had been so imposing she had come near going home to put on her finest togs.

Queen's Curious Perquisits. The Weish captain who caught a sturgeon in Pawilhell harbor and offered it to King George was doing no more than his duty. His majesty is entitled to every sturgeon landed in the United Kingdom, and one of them, caught in the Thames, graced the feetive board at Queen Victoria's wedding banquet. The king also has the right by statute to the head of every whale caught on the coasts of, his kingdom.

The tail of the whale is Queen Mary's perquisite, the object of this ourises. division being that her majesty shall always be well supplied with whalebone, although singularly enough the whalebone is the king's balf. Among other things which the hing is entitle to are a pair of white doves, a pound at comin seed, a pair of coariet hose and a silver needle from his tailor,-London Dally News.

## TRAPPER'S LIFE A HARD ONE

Bubject to All Borts of Perils and Not Infrequently Dying Alone in Hia Bunk.

"Outside of battling with weather conditions, the serious troubles en countered by Maine fur trappers are: snow blindness and influenza," Benjamin G. Flood of Boston said to a Washington Herald reporter. Mr. Flood is engaged in the fur business!

and is an expert trapper. When one becomes snow blind; from long tramping above scaled and glaring drifts, and the outside world: is made up of alternating bars of flame and darkness, the sufferer whitties two broad disks of tough spruce wood until they are thin, cuts a transverse slit in it to flit directly over the line of vision, and goes wandering about in the semidarkness until he recovers, perhaps assisting nature to some extent by bathing his inflamed eyes in a decoction of witch hazel., bark secured from bushes which grow beside the camp.

"For influenza, or grip, the trapper employes the old Indian remedy. It consists of digging a circular hole in the snow, fencing it about with stout sticks, stood on end, filling the sides of the hole with heated stones, throwing the camp blanket above the sticks, wetting down the hot stones in cold water, and, finally, getting inside and remaining until almost parboiled. The patient also drinks quarts of strong and hot hemlock 'tea,' and if that fails, tries arborvitae or cedar

tea, that is even stronger. "In case all cures fail," added Mr. Flood, "as is not infrequently the case, the victim dies in his blanketed bunk, and often remains there for a year or longer for the wild squirrels to snicker at and for some prowling woods wanderer to find and bury with homely tenderness, taking the store of furs in payment for the obsequies. It is estimated that 15 per cent of the solitary trappers perish in the woods every winter."

#### HUMANITY AND ITS DRUGS

Few Deaths Result From Their Use in Making Surgical Operations Less Cruel.

The occasional occurrence of fatal consequences from the administrations of chloroform or ether, however much. to be deplored in the individual instances, should not be permitted to divert attention from the enormous number of cases in which these agents are. administered without ill effects of any kind or from the enormous numbers in which they save life by permitting; the performance of operations which it would be impossible to accomplishwithout their aid. Statistics on the subject are perhaps not entirely trustworthy; but it may be safely said that, in round numbers, there are 3,000 successful administrations of anesthetles for every death them; and it is only the immense! number of operations which they have rendered possible and successful that expining the comparatively very small number of fatal accidents which have occurred in a given hospital or in a given time. Notwithstanding the vast preponderance of safety it is impossible to deny the existence of a certain, or rather of an uncertain amount! of real danger; and hence there is a very general feeling that the powerful, drugs concerned have been employed in the past with somewhat greater freedom than is entirely justifiable.

## The Practical Gost

M. Jules Renard was the mayor of Corbigny, in the Nievre. Every Sunday he contributed to the Journal de Clamecy and this is the sort of thing he used to give the pessants. Writing of the Journal Officiel, posted up on the wall of the mairie and which as one ever reads, he said:

"I had forgotten the goats. One of them never misses a number. Standing on its hind logs, with its front legs resting on the poster, it meves its horns and beard from right to left, like an old woman reading. When it has finished reading, as the official sheet has an appetising smell of fresh pasts, the good eats it. After nourishing the mind, one must feed the body. Thus nothing is lost he the commune. What a pity that all nevel practical goet! They might then es the books they had read, buy me and so the man of letters would in the end be able to eat in his turn."

Ruskin College Thriving.

Ruskin college, Oxford, which has begun its eleventh year with 40 ste-dents, is to all appearances fulfilling the mission of its founder. Among the 40 new men are minera, railway servants, engineers, joiners, shop es-sistants, a brass founder and a telegrapher. The students were warmly welcomed by the head, Dr. Gilbert Shaw, who offered to the young med. good advice on various points in or-der to show how they can gain the best possible advantage from their stay at Oxford.

The smell of paint, which has an in furious effect on so many people, and is doubly dangerous where sleepin recine are concerned, can often be removed by placing palls of water in the corners with either a couple of ismons or onions sliced, a handful of har, or a large piece of ammonia d camphor. A sheet scaked in a stron solution of coal tar disinfectant hun-in front of the bedroom door will prevent the smell from entering the refrom outside.

To Kill the Small of Paint.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS

prome an fortiging it dans tone for Binte du B ... Er unbilleite aller donn fon brantagent expertionnelle ... Petr de l'abondement, une fannt, Il. Beite 'z. Manifeliouge \$3.9.4.