THE ALAMANCE GLEANER.

VOL. XIV.

ADVETISEMENTS.

PROFSSIONAL CARDS.

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BIRTHDAYS. Why should we count our life by years, Since years are short, and pass as ay? Or, why by fortune's smilles or tears, Since tears are vain and smiles decay? Oh, count fly virtues, these shall last When life's lame footed race is o'er; And these, when earthly joys are past, May cheer us on a bighter shore. --Sarah J. Hale. LITTLE WASP.

"Do you think a coquette can ever be

dish. "If only you could get your ap-pointment and go with us." Now was my time. I looked up with an injured air. "I got the notice that I This remark was addressed to me by an old schoolfellow with whom I kept up

a friendship. "Do I think a coquette can be true

No; but Little Wasp can." "But a greater flirt never lived!" cried

"I should like to know what chance I had," I replied. "For the last six months there has been only one subject my companion. "She talks to all the fellows about, and I dare say half of them think she is in love with them, just as I do," he said, dashing the ash of conversation between us, and Little Wasp has"----Here he interrupted me. "Lock here, old fellow," he said; "we must drop that absurd nickname. Her real name is Ellen." from his cigar against the five barred gate over which we were both leaning. "I don't think Little Wasp a coquette, in a real and true sense," I observed. "She talks to every fellow, I know, but she behaves all the time as if unconscious "Absurd!" I ejaculated. "Little Wasp.

is Little Wasp and can be nothing clee to any cf us who have known her. But of that she's doing anything out of the way. course," I added, with some dignity, "she will have a new name to be called by soon, and I shall use that." "Nonsence, old fellow," replied my friend, "we are not going to make a But then American girls are not like English girls."

"There again," said Jack, facing round and looking at me as if I were his bitterest enemy instead of the most forbearstranger of you, and you are welcome to ing friend in the world, and indeed I had proved myself this; for had I not listened to his meandering talk about Little Wasp call her Ellen like me." I thanked him with a little of a sneer in tone, I am afraid, and respectfully defor hours together, and never pronounces clined.

myself bored? It will be judged from this that I was not one of the lady's favored gentlemen: "As you like," said Jack, giving the table a fearful wrench. . In fact, such was the danger, I was compelled to reand indeed I was not. I got none of her monstrate, and suggest that there were les, and a great many of those sharp chairs in the room, even if not of the most desirable shape and softness. "Ah, to be sure, I thought it was ricklittle answers which had gained her her nickname; answers which, coming through less beautiful lips, might have

ety," he said, decending from his perch and scating himself next upon my camp stool, which collapsed under him, result-ing in bursts of laughter from both of us. exasperated a man. But her innocent air and exquisite loveliness made everything she did or said appear right at the moment. It was afterward, upon re-flection, and when her face was not there It's only getting my hand in for the Bay of Biscay, and hang it if I care for nection, and when her face was not there to hewitch one, that one called her cruel and unfeeling, and all sorts of other names one would have been ashamed even to think in her presence. But I am anything," he said, seating himself with some care in my "arm chair, "now that angel has linked her lot with mine."

But I am digressing. "I want but one thing to complete my

happiness," Jack said; and the table creaked under him, and caused the cheese to run a race with the knife along the

was appointed this morning." "Why in the name of all the gods

didn't you tell a fellow !"

"What are you calling her an angel for?" Isaid. Somehow I could not bear I had spoken of har being American, and Jack had turned upon me angrily with, "There sgain! she and her mother to hear him run on. "T'll allow she's a very pretty little sinner." "Sinner!" cried Jack, knocking down have come from no one knows where, and are no one knows who; and here am my cicar case from a cupboard near his elbow with magnificent indifference. I, belonging to one of the oldest fami-

like that! She who is as stainless Here I interrupted him. I had no Here I interrupted him." "Don't go particular ancestors to trace my deon," I said, "I know the rest; and you scent from, and no coat of arms to brag know we've all been so used to talking

anow we we all been so used to talking of her lightly" (and thinking seri-ously), I added mentally. "Fur too lightly," said Jack with as-perity, "and I won't hear any more of it. She'll be Mrs. Percival in a few days' time; and if that contain a hear bit and the about; and as I knew by heart all Jack's ancestors as far back as Adam, I did not want to hear any more of them; which Little Wasp would have said directly was jealousy. "All right, old fellow," said Jack. time; and if that captain shows his nose "I'm not going to give you the tree this

"I'm not going to give you the tree this time, and you come of a better stock than I do or you wouldn't be what you are." I was considerably mollified by this I was considerably mollified by this near

on, scating htmself upon the table in a manner which would have alarmed my landlady could she have seen him, for "There is little chance for you in the boat," said the captain to the first mate: "here there is none, You have done your that article of furniture was none of the newest nor the most modern. It was duty, God speed you. Do what you can for the little craft," and the two shock newest nor the most modern. It was round, and stood upon a center pedestal, and had a great tendency to lurch; and I had discovered three different catalogue numbers of sales upon it underneath.

for the little craft," and the two shook bands as for eternity. The pumps had been abandoned, and Jack with his arm around his wife stood near and heard. "You will go, Tom," said Jack, "you have your mother. We," he said, glancing with a kind of rapture at the wistful little face leaning against his pea jacket-"we will not be separ-ated." I still hoped, as I said "good-by," that

GRAHAM, N.C., THURSDAY, APRIL 26, 1888.

they would join us; but the crew, find-ing the passengers held back, had come on to the boat and taken their places, at which the captain smiled grimly. 'He smiled even more, as one of the other passengers went over the side of the veswith a black bag carefully held, to think he should care for his possessions at a moment like this. There was no time to lose, for the good ship was settling fast. We had some biscuits and a compass, but no water.

"There is room for one more. Fetch a lady," said the mate as we were about

to cut ourselves free of the slip, I immediately regained the slip to look for Eilen and her husband. "There is room for one lady," I said hurriedly. "Go both of you and care for my mother or me.

They shook their heads, both of them. and Jack said, "I could never face your mother with such a tale; but," he added mother will such a tale; but," he added wish a sudden heroism, "it is the mo-ment to tell the truth. Tom loves you, Ellen, I have seen it all along. Take her," he sold to me, "marry her and make her happy. It is so dreadful for such a sweet young life to be broken off." I felt myself choking, but I needed not to speak a word. She hald her soft cheek against his, and clung to him so desperately, with a face so full of radiant

eperately, with a face so full of radiant ove, it was answer enough. Jack looked at me with a happiness I

can never describe. "You see a coquette can be true," he said, and these were his est words to me.

The moments were so precious I had only time to fling myself over the side and into the boat, for the ship was settling down so fast that the boat, if not cut away immediately, would be sucked

Elien Percival I see now as I last saw her, standing upon the deck of that doomed vessel, cheerful and like herself even in such an hour, sometimes peering forward through the gloom to anxiously watch our venture through the dashing foam and spray, sometimes gazing at her husband in a sweet contented way, and that I might see her the more plainly. the sun shoue out for a brief moment amid angry banks of black cloud, and lit her face with a sort of chastened glory. It may sound strange, but I never saw more perfect happiness than was in the face of both those two at that moment. It was but a moment," for the bow of the ship rose right out of the sea, and the sudden rush of air from below flung all the passengers forward together. It was all over now-the once mighty craft sank suddenly and completely, and around us was the raging sca. It matters little to the reader how I

picked up by a ship after we had encountered some privations, and it was long before I could reconcile myself to life after that last adien to Little Wasp. -Jennie Gwynne Bettany in Home Journal.

WHAT THE MATTER IS. Couses of Nervousness, Insomnia, Etc. Worriment and Dissipation.

We hear and read much of late of an

we hear and read inden of inte of all increasing tendency to nervous disorders and insomnia among men and women, and even among young people. It is, a bad symptom, indicative of growing physical infimity, the cause or causes of which are well worthy the investigation of the scientist and the medical expert. Probably our social customs and our gen-eral habits of life have much to do with it, and probably our over devotion, our over exertion and our over anxiety in business and in ambitious pursuits are in a measure responsible. Most of us try to do too much, and some of us break down in the effort before suspecting what the matter is. Better to have health than wealth; better to linger at the foot of the mountain with comfort than to exhaust and cripple ourselves trying to elimb to the top of it for the mere sake of the gratification of getting there.

But some of us who, ailing, do not know what the matter is, not only over work and over worry, but drink too work and over worry, but drink too much, eat too much, or indulge too much in other dissipations and bod habits, that wear and prematurely en-feeble and analytic the body and the mind. We are so apt to yield to the cravings of abnormal appelites, to an over indulgence of the passions, to the gratification of the desire for pleasure, and to the pressure of workly ambition, that we become victims of our weak-nesses before we are aware of it and nesses before we are aware of it, and find ourselves going to physical wreck and ruin at a time of life when we ought to be at our very best. We call in the doctors, but it is difficult for the wiscest of doctors to diagnose the ailments of heir patients without knowledge of the inducing causes, and still more difficult to treat their cases successfully for the same reason, the patients heeping their own secrets and thus baffling the physi-

cion's judgment and skill. It has often been said that we of the present generation, in this country, "live too fast;" that we do business too much on the steam engine principle, in our cagerness to be rich, and that this is why we are becoming a nerve shattered, debilitated and prematurely exhausted people. That some of us "live too fast" is no doubt true, but we seriously doubt the ascertion that many of us break down or Fill ourselves prematurely by our eterm engine methods of work or business. Among the healthicst and strongest of our merchants, professional men, mechanics and others within the circle of our acquaintances or observation are those who work the hardest, the longest and the most energetically. Worriment and excessive indulgence, much more frequently than overwork, are the causes of nervous wrecks and physical and in-tellectual break downs. One hour of fret and worry is more wearing upon body and mind than a whole year of hard work, and the excessive uso of stimulants, excessive indulgence of the passions and persistent excessive dissingtion of any kind hasten more men and women to premaiure decay and death every year than either overwork or over

life.-Chicago Journal.

Special Branches of the Law. "What special branches of the law are the most difficult?" "The most difficult branch of the law

of real estate, and the particular de ment of it called the law of trust. The law of trust is very complicated, as it generally presents itself and leads to great refinements. It is difficult for a man to practice it unless he has an ethical sense and is quite observant of moral distinctions. Men who are quite successful in these branches reach the higher positions of the law. There are also some branches of the law & con-tracts that are difficult and perplextracts that are difficult and perplex-ing. It should, however, be remarked that these difficulties exist mainly for those who are not willing to pay the price of overcoming them. The price is thorough study and close application, and with these the difficulties vanish. This in such brances as these, particularly, that, the advantages of a thorough legal training in early life are most manifest.

that the advantages of a thorough legal training in early life are most manifest. The student who undertakes to acquire them without the aid of instruction is apt to be confused and bewildered, and he may work his way out unaided, yet it is an expenditure of too much time and effort. It ought to be regarded in education as a wasteful thing to use more time than is necessary to accomplish a given purpose. It is just as traly waste-ful and infinitely more permicious than to use more fuel in a manufacturing establishment than the needs of the busi-ness require. Since the waste in education can never be made up, it is the loss of the most precious investment pos-sible-the loss of time."-New York Mail and Express Interview with Professor Dwight.

Methods of Letter Stealers.

During a service of cleven years as as-sistant postmaster, I had occasion to inrestigate the methods of letter breakers. in the postoffice and on the rail, and I came to the conclusion that no one could steal from the mails very long without getting caught. In nine cases out of ten, perhaps, in my experience, the thieves destroyed the envelopes and letters by sending them on a journey through a sewer or by casting them into a fire. That was done, of course, to give out the impression that the letters had been lost in transit, and it took careful work to trace the stealing to the right man. However, it was done with unerring accuracy. Steaming the envelope at the scaled part blackens the envelope somewhat and leads to discovery. Then, too, no envelope can be opened under the softening influence of steam without cracking the edges of the flap of the envelope so raised. The whole flap is cracked in slight checks or chaps under steaming, the nucliage is weakened, and the whole job is so apparent that it is not hard work to detect that the letter has been tampered with. To open a letter dry with a knife blade also makes fractures in the edges of the flap, no matter how carefully the knife is worked under the edges, and lends to discovery. I don't understand why any employe of the postoffice department will take the chances of robbing a letter year than either overwork or over under the present system, as he is bound on to the legitimate pursuits in to be caught it.-Globe-Democrat.

ARTISTS IN PLUMAGE.

NO 13.

Light Work Done by Hosts of Presty Girls with Nimble Fingers. From lower Broadway away up to Seventeenth street may be found hum-dreds of stores where handsome, glocsy feathers are exposed for sale. In them are employed twenty times the number of pretty girls, whose occupation, from 7 of 8 o'clock in the morning till long roat 5 in the examine, is to support and past 5 in the evening, is to smooth and curl and steam the rulled wings of the feathered tribe brought from all parts of the world, and in all shades, sizes and

The primary object in steaming feath-ers is to limber the quills and lay the rufiled, tiny feathers that are the compo-nents of not only the completed bonnet, but of the price itself. And, indeed, the husband who would be so cruel as to re-fuse his wife such a love of a thing as is made out of these vari-colored articles doesn't deserve to have a wife.

doen't deserve to have a wife. Steaming feathers seems simple enough. 'Unit hold them over the steam.'' But the povice would get his ingers burned and burned again in the attempt, and then—well, then, the feather would be worth throwing away. The old fashioned way of doing the work, which is still in vogue in the smaller stores, is to fill an ordinary tin kettle, having an extra long and straight nozzle, with water, and then heat it. When the boiling point is reached and the steam issues forth the work of the pretty reamer begins. The feather is held in the steam, and with disengaged hand tho girl smooths the obstinute particles until they shine as brightly as the eye of the they shine as brightly as the eye of the worker. This is all the work there is to it. Still, it is a long, tedious occupation, which strains the mind as well as the

hands. In addition to being stean In addition to being steamed the feath-era are dyed, curled and finally prepared for the milliner, after being glued to the regulation wire pin, much after the fashion of the flower from the florist. Dyeing a feather is like dyeing anything else, save perhaps that it costs more, be-cause there is so little of it. The curling is done over a hot fire, deft fingers again is done over a hot fire, deft fingers again playing a) prominent part in shaping the twists and turns until they represent, so husbands will claim, about \$3 a twist. Then the wing feathers are attached to the wire pina or handles by means of paste and a heavy, thick strip of cloth, and then the goods are ready for the market. market.

Just how long it takes to steam and Just now long it takes to seem and prepare each feather is a question that even skilled workwomen cannot answer. Their intuition and knowledge of the article is a help in determining, but some feathers are just as obstinate about getting steamed and polished as their original owners were about getting caught, and they will not down. But slender fingers feadler for the wayward time and then finally coax the wayward tips and then the work is finished.

the work is innaned. Of course in the larger houses the method of doing this work is much simpler, though prebably no contrivance has yet been devised for supplanting the girls and their deft work with machinery. indeed, it is doubtful if there could be a machine invented to so thoroughly get at the little details with which the work abounds, and this may be the cau

churches, school, and a good new mill in $\frac{1}{2}$ mile of the house. It is a desirable face adapted to the growth of tobacco, grain, and grasses, Placeels seeded in wicet and outs. Possession riv= at once, Price \$2000. [jant3

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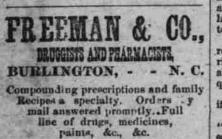
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countenance, said: "You were about to I don't think that's fair to her, coquette "Yes," said Jack, "I was about to though she has been."

"Well, it can't matter much, for we observe that I am ready to die for that are all going away," said Jack, rist girl,

and lighting up. "In what respect," I replied, "you * * The scene had changed; and I, who

"In what respect, I replace, 'you are not so distinguished from your fel-lows as by your tree." "Very likely." he answered mourn-fully. "But after all, the question at issue is, which of us is she ready to die thought myself practical and free of continent, while others made love, or fooled, as I termed it, around me, was now feeling, as I leaned, not against a for?" five barred gate this time, but against

How I remembered that remark later the poop of a vessel with the raging Bay on, when I knew the end of the story! "Little Wasp die!" I said, laughing. of Biscay all surrounding us, that I had a great deal of sentiment in me after all: "She'll live her summer day life and then and indeed there is nothing like a great inst discppear, to make war and anarchy storm to bring out the true woman in a in heaven once more, the little witch! Che cannot think of Little Wasp dying." man, which is there sure chough if it can only be aroused; just as my poor Little Wasp proved there was plenty of the man or marfly courage in a frail, sweetly "Well, then, which of us will she live

for?" asked Jack, with some asperity. "I wonder how many of the fellows nature-painted little woman. have asked her?" I replied with great calmness, "if you mean business, I must say you're taking it uncommonly cool. Somebody will be carrying her off, sting and all, while you are thinking about it. There was Capt. Esher round She was with her husband below now. cheering and consoling him, I was sure for she who had on coming on board

shuddered only lost black beetles might be in the cabin was now strong and firm, and even cheerful, since the captain had told us he feared we could never weather there to night, as I passed the gate." "Look here," said Jack, "I'll go round there this very night, and the old one's the gale. There were many pasengers on board, so auxious to marry the girl off her hands

I don't know the number, for I could that she won't deay me admission; and it'll be a bit of a test when I tell her I sail nover read the newspaper accounts. But Ellen Percival, in her blue serge, was hither and thither, consoling mothers, so soon for Melbourne. By the way," he said, breaking off suddenly and looking comforting children, and even taking off little triakcts for them to play with. And how those children played on the verge of eternity! They were not ter-rified, the majority of them; and if they were, Little Wasp, with her gentle voice, which hed no strag may for any one at me with a whimsical puzzlement on his face, "I hope the old one won't want to be included in the bargain.

"On that point I can set your heart at rest," I replied. "The old one has carried off her own prize. Thomson told me about it. She's going to be married quietly." "So much the better," said Jack; "and

which had no sting now for any one, coazed them isto happiness, and hid away in her own great tender heart all she must have been feeling then. if you'll excuse me, old fellow, I'm off." "Always the way," I said to myself,

"Have you no fear?" I said to her, an a lifeboat was launched and was seen to "where the girls are concerned. Never go to pieces instantly in that terrible rea. so much as asked how I was going on; She was standing with her husband's

arm about her as I spoke. "Jack is here," was all her reply. The battered crew of the lifebo

so much as asked how I was going on: never asked if I'd got the appointment— and be hanged if I'll tell him without. I'll just present myself to see them off when they sail, as of course they will. Little Wasp, for all her baby looks, will know better than to throw over a man of his property and position." And truly I was trying as hard as I could to think her mercenary, though I have learned cued all but one, persisted that they would make no further attempt. They resisted the explain's command to brunch the iron pinnace, which would hold fifty souris. No, they would go down with the old craft, they said doggedly."

I was trying as hard as I could to think her mercenary, though I have learned how desperately I must have been en-deavoring to quench something so much warmer for her in nfy heart. I would go and see them off, and then when the man should call out, "All visitors on land!" I should just stick there and let them find out I had taken my passage. I was disappointed at this piece of dislomacy for Lack ensue up to my And now, to make matters worse, half the crew, who were hislays, referred to do anything, and went to their berths, and it became necessary for the passen-gers to take their places. Jack and I were strong, and we went to the piraps. The storm continued with redoubled

The storm continued with redoubled fury. The water was rising mathily in I was disappointed at this piece of diplomacy, for Jack came up to my lodging very late in the evening, and he looked as bouyant and happy that I knew it was all settled; and why shouldn't it be? (this latter a little admonition delivthe cabin, and there the stewardens belowd the parents to place their children higher than the water, thus putting off by so little the inevitable.

by so little the inevitable. It was now resolved that the pinnace should be lowered by means of the davita. But only three of the passengers were willing to anter it when launched. They had been terrified by the fate of the life-bont. I was one of the passengers, and I almost feel guilty in writing it, seeing that they were not the other two. Few will believe how great a sacrifice I made for the oil mother at home depend-ing on me. To have died with her as he did would have seemed bliss to me. But my life telonged to my oil mother at bonts.

bet (this latter a little admonition deliv-ered internally to some part of me that would eigh in thinking of it). "Yes, it's all right, old boy," he mid, clapping use on the shoulder, which I a little resented, for the weight of his flat was not light: "and she has cared for me all along and thought I was never going to ask her." "The deuce sho has," I asid, sticking a knife into a lost of thread in front of me, for I had been esting my supper. He looked a Eitifs surprised as my ex-pression, but he was too full of his own toppings to notice me much, and raited

Children's Prize Stories

The Chicago News offered a prize for the best story written by a pupil in the Chicago public schools, and as a result was deluged with all sorts of produc tions. It printed many of them and re-jected more, but that its readers might not be deprived of considerable enjoyment, it printed short extracts from some of the rejected manuscripts. Here are a few of these extracts: "Cora Brown was fortunately the presenter of a hithday, for she was the daughter of rich friends." "Norman was a' dear, bright, but thin. little boy." "But all this time a cloud was gathering over Mrs. Delancy, which grow large as years went by, and that cloud was full of grusshoppers." "Eva was a pretty little girl, but not smart, being an only child." "She fell down. scattering her censes in every direction "My father desired me to marry a bank president, a handsome, reckless man, fond of nought save the gaming table." "The minister's wife had nine small chilers .- Court Journal. dren, each of which was one year younger than the other. Though poor, she was a diligent woman."-New York

A Counterfeit Night.

Sun.

Terrific pine forests and bush fires broke out, or, rather, were set out, to the northward of Shasta the other day. The sun shone so dimly for several days that noon appeared as deep twilight. The Indians spearing fish on the Sacra-mento hung their catch on the bushes to utilize this prevailing smoke, and butch-ers and others who had beef and bacon to smoke strung their mest up to take advantage of the situation. Lamps and lasterns were lighted in the middle of the afternoon, and the soot carried in suspension in the inky atmosphere was so thick, and the deposit was so great, that there was little distinction between Caucasians and our feilow citizens of African ment. The smoke was so heavy that it laid the dust, chickens stayed on their roosts all day, and the whole coun-try for miles around smelled like a tar and furpentine factory.-Shasta (Cal.)

Courier

A Daugerous Bill.

A Dasgerous Hill. In an envelope recently opened at Washington was a \$5 bill, which the sender and had been exposed to con-tagious disease, and although fumigated, had better receive careful landling. When the young woman who received it read the warning, it is told she dropped the bill with a ceresta, which brought fifly other young women in the division crowding around her desk.—Chicago Times.

A Flutter of Anticipat

The city of Crefeld, in Illaniah Pras-als, has just \$0,900 inhabitants (unless some one has died since this item came some one interies since this item came across the water) and the people are in a finiter of anticipation as to what patriotic cilinen will became the happy father of the child that will round out the num-her to an even 100,000,--New York ; Evening World.

The Armies of Enrope.

"The bloated armaments of the great military powers of Europe" display their proportions in a very striking manner in Col. Vogt's work on "The European Armics of the Present." The mobilized strength of France is set down at 2,051,-458 treopt, exclusive of the territorial army, which is equally harge; that of Russia at 1,022,405; Germany, 1,408,690, and Anstria-Hungary, 1,035,055. The military strongth of Italy has now at-tained proportions that would have been deemed incredible ten years ago. In-cluding militia, it is alleged to amount to 2,397,332 men. H, however, a similar inclusion be made in the case of Russia. the military strength of that power will robany be found to exceed even that of the French republic. Compared with these figures the numerical proportions of the British army ought almost to satisfy the members of the Peace society. Including our militia and volunteers, as well as the Indian army, we can just muster 781,677 troops. And these have to serve for the defense of territory distributed over a very much wider area than that ruled by any of the other pow-

A Simple Minded Clergyman.

It is said that a Maine clearyman, a man of great simplicity of character, told a friend of the difficulty they had in get-ting their youngest child to go to skep. "Did you ever try one of your eermons on him, doctor?" asked the friend, jok-ingly. "No," snid the parson, seriously, "I never thought of tint." A few days afterward, again meeting his parishioner, he said: "Oh, do you know, I adopted your suggestion of reading one of mysermons to my boy, and it worked like a charm."-New York Sun.

Extraordinary Water Power.

On the coast of the Grecian island of Cephalonia are a large number of fisrest or pits, in which the contained fresh or sait water rises and falls like the sea outside, though the water level inside is four feet lower than cutside. still more remarkable is that the pile cen-not be filled by running water into them, nor emptied by chunting it out. This singular difference of level has been utilized by causing a flow of water from the sea to drive a water wheel places im one of the pits .- Arkaniaw Traveler.

Indians and Loggers.

Chippewa Indians are annoying the isconsin loggers. They divide up into nds of ten and fifteen, scatter through the forestand pitch their teris always in the neighborhood of a logging camp. This winter they have been tolder and have even compelled the cooks in some of the camps to prepare them meals when the crew was absent from the shanties.-New York Press.

He Was Bellevad

He Was fieldered. Some people are doubtful about the propriety of small contributions when the plate is possed in church. A small boy had cue cont for this purpose. He feared the small sam would not be counted, until the minister announced the result of the collection as \$30.01. The youthfat mind was then reheved .- New York

Postoffices in Mexico.

Speaking of postoffices, if you go into one almost anywhere in the land of "Dies of. Libertad" and ask in English for a letter, the obliging postmaster or one of his deputies will toos out the whole stock addressed to foreign names, whether it be a peck or a bushel, and allow you to select for yourself, quite indifferent as to whether you confine yourself to your own or other people's mail. Although

my countrymen are proverbially honest, that is allowing rather too much latitude, as has sometimes transpired, both in matters of love and lucre. I notice that they never do that way with any but foreigners' letters, the Mexicans themselves being more carefully served from pigeon holes Alphabetically arranged. Whether this distinction is made become they are unwilling to take extra trouble for "outside barbarians," or because they know too well their own little pecaliarities, is a matter of conjecture. The laws against opening other people's letters are even more severe in Mexico than in the United States, but they are enforced only among those of Mexican birth, and Americans need expect no redress here for wrongs of any kind. -- Troy Times.

Natives of the Congo Country.

The women, as in all heathen lands, have all the heavy work of the family to do. The men do the sewing for the family to ily, but the women do all the farming, bring all the water and wood, and do the cocking. They do the farm work with the baby of the family tied on their back, as a rule. It is wenderful what cheering traits they dovelop even in the face of all this. The husband is often the husband of many among the better class. A man's wealth can easily be known by the number of his wives. They all be-lieve in the ability of a "witch" to take away life. I am told that it is common to call an uganga (doctor; what we would call in the south "a witch doctor") for a sick person to have the spirit found. This doctor often Ends the spirit in a tree, a piece of wood, or sione, and comptimes in another person. If the sick die, then this person in when the spirit dwelt is ndoki (witch). Often a person dies without an uganga. In this case the uganga would be sent for to find out who is ndoki.-Congo Missionary in Consider Researcher. Christian Recorder.

Discovery of Silk.

The discovery of silk is attributed to one of the wives of the emperor of China, Hoangti, who reigned about 2,000 years before the Christian era, and since that time a special spot has been allotted in the gardens of the Calnese royal palace to the cultivation of the mulberry treecalled in Chinese the "golden tree"-and to the keeping of silk worms .- Chicago Horald.

Als Fingered Generation.

In Lancaster county, Pa., there is a family in which there have been five generations of six fingered persons de-sounded in a straight line. In a colored family of Columbia county four generations have been flagerlam.

British land companies are disporting of their lands in Kanson. They don't he the anti-alien laws.

York World.

Pictures of Central Africa.

Professor Drummond gave some graphic pictures of Central Africa, in his address before the American Association for the Advancement of Science. He was surprised at the utter lack of vego-table and animal life but a short remove from the water courses. He says: "Not a tree, a shrub, or blade of grass felleves the glarss of the sunlight upon the white and yellow sand. The unending silence becomes solemnly, weirdly impressive, especially at night, when one gazes upon a boundless sea of sand broken into lows by occasional rocks. Possibly at intervals, in the distance, may be heard the yelp of the hyena or the far away roar of the lin, but the muthe of a leaf or the hum of an insect is an unknown or the hum of an interest is an unknown sound. Inland trips were terrible. To more was pain and prostration, and yot to keep in motion was better than to halt. Sleep was impossible, even under canvas. Over the plains the quivering best direction in group as from how income heat rises in waves as from hot iron, while the mirage mocks the sense with life like pictures of lakes and rippling waters. The journey was day after day through narrow, oven hot valleys, over bald hilltops, with here and there a grove inclusion and the states and the or jungle scattered like islets amid the waste."-Magazine of American History.

English Gamekcepers.

Many gamekeepers are unspeakable blackguards. In the village ale house their language is a torrent of obscenity and blasphemy. They are not fit company for any bat the lowest roughs. Yet they hold a position of immense power. They carry the title tattle of the hamlet to their manismic set. They much lite contheir masters' ears. They sheak into con-fidences, convey tales and ruin without remove the cottagers who offend them. Men of this chas are at once detested and feared by everybody on the estate, from the steward downward. And yet they are often arrant curs. It was the talk in a village with which I was well acquainted that the head poscher of the place, an undersized and bandy legged follow of about five feet four inches, used to send a message to the game-keeper, a hulking giant of over six feet, that he was coming out on a certain night, and that it would therefore be prudent for the gamekceper to stay at home. Such a message, the villager said, was never disregarded.—George Summer in Outing.

Qualities of Aluminum

• Qualities of Atuminum. All the good qualities of the meta-seem to be contained in aluminum, ar-regimeering will be amazingly benefits if it can be cheaply produced. It is on one-third as heavy as iron and yet ve-tough. It has a very low melting poin and hence can be cast with great facility and hence and be construction of excise boilers, hulls, etc., by the use of a meta only one-third as heavy as it was can be readily itmaxined. The solution of a strike invignition, if ever retched, will probable depend upon the use of thin metal.-Chicago News. MED NOWS.

A mountment to Gen, Robert To-