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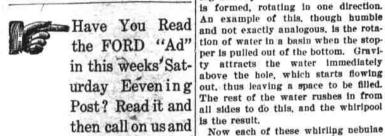
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It were endless to dispute upon FOLEY'S ORINO LAXATIVE it were endies to disputable.—Penn.

One of the Most Interesting Propositions of Science.

WHAT IT ACTUALLY MEANS.

That the Sun, Planets and All Matter Were Once a Vast Mass of Incandescent Gas All Jumbled Together in an Enormous Chaotic Cloud.

Everybody has heard the phrase, the nebula hypothesis, but what is it? In a few words this is the meaning of "nebula hypothesis:" That the sun, the planets and all that is in them were at one time in the inconcelvably remote past a vast mass of chaotic, incandescent gas all jumbled together in on enormous nebula, or cloud. To begin with, the first conception

that science has dared to make, however, takes us one step further back Without mentioning the origin of matter itself science conceives that in the beginning all matter was uniformly distributed throughout space - that there were no stars, no planets, no satellites, but that all space was filled with the matter we now have divided up into very fine particles some distance apart. The consistency of such material was perforce very thin indeed, much more rarefied than the highest vacuum we can obtain now by air pumps. From this state to the nebulous state the theory has a missing link, one that can only be satisfied by supposing divine command, for it assumes, in the words of Professor Todd, that "gradually centers of attraction formed and thesecenters pulled in toward themselve other parti-cles. As a result of the inward falling of matter toward these centers, the collision of its particles and their friction upon each other the material masses grew hotter and hotter. Nebulae seeming to fill the entire heavens were formed-luminous fire mist, like the filmy objects still seen in the sky, though vaster and exceedingly numer-This process is supposed to have gone on for countless ages, faster in some regions than in others. Many million nebulae were formed and set in rotation around their own axes. This happily can be explained by science. Whenever particles are attracted toward a center and are kept from fall-

per is pulled out of the bottom. Graviin this weeks Sat- ty attracts the water immediately above the hole, which starts flowing urday Eevening out, thus leaving a space to be filled. The rest of the water rushes in from Post? Read it and all sides to do this, and the whiripool Now each of these whirling nebulae became exceedingly hot, and each formed what is known as a star or sun, our sun being one. The earth

ing directly to this center a whirlpool

is formed, rotating in one direction.

An example of this, though humble

and not exactly analogous, is the rota-

it is supposed that they were thrown off later from the sun. Our sun in its nebulous form and rotating swiftly on its axis gradually flattened at its poles on account of centrifugal motion. This phenomenon is entirely familiar to those who have seen a ball of clay on a potter's wheel gradually flatten. The motion was so swift and the mass so nebulous that the sun to be took the shape of a disk. As time went on the outer part became cool and somewhat rigid, while the inner part continued its cooling and contracting. Thus the inner part drew away from the outer, leaving a ring of matter whirling around on the outside. This breaking off of the ring is supposed to be hastened by the inability of the outside to keep up the swift motion of the central mass, both on account of the slight cohesion and of the centrifugal force. But this particular part of the argument has noth-

ing to stand on if the first law of mo-In the successive stages of the sun's contraction this process was repeated over and over again, until several rings were whirling around the central orb. They would necessarily be in the same plane. Now, these rings, not being uniform in mass or thickness, would each gradually accumulate toward the densest portion until they, too, would form a ball which would subsequently flatten, and if the substance continued nebulous and the ball

was large enough they would also slough rings. Of course the rings the sun discarded have become the planets, which, as required by the theory, are all very nearly in the same plane. The rings that the planets formed have become moons or satellites. So we are driven to conclude that our sun at one time filled all the space from his present position to the farthest planet in the

From this theory there is another thing that we have to believe, and that is that every star in the beavens has gone through this same process and has a family of planets sailing around it, just as our sun has. It would be impossible to see these planets, of course, for it is impossible to see a star, even with the greatest telescope except as a mere point of light.

As regards the proving of this nebuis hypothesis, of course it cannot be sone. But everything points to its aceuracy. Many nebulae are seen even now among the stars that seem to be poing through the delayed process of world forming. Around one of the planets of our own solar system, Saturn, are three rings, which are probably destined in time to become moons in the opinion of some scholars.—A. T.

Hodge in New York Tribune. "They say his wife was the inspira tion of some of his best plays." "Yes; he produced them before he was married."-Chicago Record-Her-

Significant.

Tom-Do you think your father disties me? Tess-Well, he gave the dog's chain and muzzle away yester-

#### INSECT INSTINCT.

How Bees Treat Intruders That Get

Into the Hive. What does the bee do when some foreigner in the animal world, as, for instance, a heavy slug, invades its hive? Stings it to death, of course. But what then? All the bees in the hive may not be able to drag out the carcass, and yet they must do something with it to keep it from infecting the colony. Move into a new house? Scarcely, for they would abandon their store of honey. No, the workers cease gathering honey and start out after propolis, the red resinous substance with which bees line and fence their hives. This bee glue they spread all over the foreign substance in little fillets until the foreigner is

completely embalmed. So, too, if a snail invades the hive and evades being stung to death they glue him fast in his shell and when he starves to death embalm him with propolis.

But the bee is not the only insect that exhibits a clearly defined intelligence. The maternal nature shows up in some of the meanest insects to a wonderful degree. The pine silkworm moth tears all the hair and down from its own body in order to make a soft nest for its young and expires soon after. This is to a greater extent than the rabbit, which tears only the fur from its belly for its nest.

Some gall insects even immolate themselves to protect their offspring. As the insect, full to great distension with eggs, exts them gradually till all have been laid and nothing but a hollow shell remains of the mother, she sees that her task has been accomplished and gathers the eggs into a pile, spreads herself over them, fastens the sides of her own body down over them, and thus dies. This, of course, forms an impermeable covering for the eggs till they are hatched. The mother has here paid for the child-birth with her life, and the children are born in the shelter of her corpse.-New York Tribune.

#### The Hippopotamus.

Next to the elephant the hugest beast in point of bulk and weight is the hippopotamus. One White Nile specimen measured fourteen feet three inches from snout to tip of tail. The crocodile never ventures to attack the hippopotamus, which for its part disdains to attack the crocodile. Although, like the rhinoceros, this monarch of mid-African rivers is not carnivorous, it is very formidable to man, being easily provoked and assailing the object of and other planets had not then come its resentment with reckless fury. It can upset the largest boat and i one instance perforated with its tusks the iron bottom of a steamer, causing a dangerous leak. The flesh of the hippopotamus is always palatable, and when the animal is young it is delicious. The skin makes excellent turtle soup. The tusks were formerly more valuable than those of the elephant, being in request by dentists because they never turn yellow.

A certain young fellow has got the parrot's complaint—he talks too And this is how it let him down a cropper at an important in-

"You love my daughter?" said the old man.

"Love her!" he exclaimed passionately. "Why, I would die for her! For one soft glance from those sweet eyes I would hurl myself from yonder cliff and perish, a bleeding, bruised mass, upon the rocks 200 feet below!"

The old man shook his head. "I'm something of a liar myself," he said, "and one is enough in a small family like mine."-London

## The Young Lobster.

From the eggs of the lobster are hatched creatures not in the least resembling their parents-little fellows that swim with featherlike locomotive organs near the surface of the water. At the end of six weeks they develop legs—unless, as is high-ly probable, they have previously been devoured by fishes or other enemies-becoming thereupon small lobsters of familiar shape. Having reached this stage of growth, the young lobsters become walking animals, and, sinking to the bottom, immediately seek hiding places to protect them from their foes.

Hard to Suit. "That editor is certainly getting hard to suit," the author remarked n a discouraged voice, gazing sadly at a heavy envelope upon his table.
"What is the matter?" asked a

cheerful friend, who gets a regular "Oh, he returns this story with the comment that it is too bald. Last week he wrote that he didn't care for stories of the hair raising kind. What can you do with a man like that?"-Lippincott's.

Bunching the Hita.

A legal journal tells a story of an A legal journal tells a story of an illinois attorney who argued to the court one after another a series of very weak points, none of which seemed to the court to have any merit until the court finally said, "Mr. —, do you think there is anything in these points?" To which the aftorney replied, "Well, judge, perhaps there isn't much in any one of them alone, but I didn't know but your honor would kind of bunch them." scription, and you will regret it if you don't get it. Begins with the issue of January 27. So send \$1.00 and get The Gleaner for a year.

#### The Neglected Commandments.

General Rundle was visiting in company with a party of tourists his nalive county of Devonshire, and they were shown over a little old fashioned church. Among the party was a lergyman, who, when the visit was oncluded, looked round the church end said to the attendant:

"Very nice indeed, but I notice that you have not got the Commandments exhibited How is that?"

The man's reply was startling. "Well, sir," he answered. "It is like this: We used to have them up one time, but no one about here seemed to take any notice of them, so we took them down and they are behind that door."-London Tatler.

#### Lost His Thumb.

I have reason to remember our visit to the Andamans, for I lost the top of my thumb there-bitten off by a parrot fish. The brute came to the surface after some torpedo experiments, shamming death. I incautiously put my thumb in his mouth, when the creature's jaws shut with a horrid snap, taking off the flesh of my thumb to the bone. Our surgeon dressed the wound. My cockswain picked up the portion of my thumb and, follow ing me down into my cabin, asked what he should do with it. I told him to give it to a panther cub we had on of a Sailor," by Vice Admiral Ken-

#### Dante's Fierce Retort.

The secret of Dante's struggle through life was in the reckless sarcasm of his answer to the Prince of account for the fact that in the housegreater favor than the philosopher.

source of friendship."

The Crab.

Students of the crustacea often find the cod a useful assistant collector. Thus the circular crab seems to be a favorite food of cod and rays, and it was chiefly from the stomachs of these fish that some of the oldest naturalists obtained their specimens. Another hunting ground of the naturalist is the sailing ship which has been in for-

The Salted Thread. Soak a piece of thread in strong sait water, dry it and repeat two or three When thoroughly dry, tie one end to a chandelier and on the other but not too heavy article.

It is now ready for the experiment. Set fire to the thread, and behold the ring does not fall to the floor, nor does the thread break.

The explanation is: The thrend has in reality been burned, but the sait ; with which the thread was saturated forms a solid column, and that supports the ring. Varied experiments can be made, using several threads for one article and, in fact, many others which may suggest themselves to the

#### Lots of Vowels.

In the Hawalian language every word ends in a vowel. A Hawaiian finds it almost impossible to pronounce two consonants together, and in Engboard the ship .- "Hurrah For the Life lish he has the greatest difficulty in pronouncing any word ending with a consonant. Mr. Hale in his Polynesian grammar says: "In all the Polynesian dialects every syllable must terminate in a vowel, and two consonants are never heard without a vowel between them. It is chiefly to this necellarity Terona, who asked him how he could that the softness of these languages is to be attributed. The longest syllahold of princes the court fool was in bles have only three letters, and many syllables consist of a single vowel. "Similarity of mind," said the fierce Again, no syllable, as a general rule, in genius, "is all the world over the the Bantu family of African speech can

The Perfume of

The Lady in Black

The Latest and Greatest Detective Story

A Postoffice Story.

In one month, according to the Journal of St. Petersburg, there have been found in the postoffice letter boxes 332 postal cards and 170 letters and book packages bearing no address. In this respect the Independence Belge relates the story of a peasant who in writing to his son addressed the letter, "A Mon Fils, Bruxelles" (to my son, Brussels). The authorities did not despair. They placed the missive in the rack of letters to be called for at the general postoffice. One day a young man appeared at the counter and asked, "Have you not received a letter from my father for me?" The clerk handed him or lower end tie a ring or some small the letter without hesitation. He was the addressee

#### A Ship and Its Story.

Coke of Holkham began his great agricultural work about 1776 on an estate where, as old Lady Townshend said, "All you will see will be one blade of grass and two rabbits fighting for that." In fact, it was little better than a rabbit warren. He transformed the bleak, bare countryside by planting fifty acres of trees every year until he had 3,000 acres well covered and in 1832 had probably the unique experience of embarking in a ship which was built of oak grown from the acorns he had himself planted. Between 1776 and 1842, the date of his death, he is hald to have spent £536,502 on improving his estate - From "History of English Agriculture," by W. H. R. Cutler.

#### Lighting a Pipe.

"I consider that one of our most picturesque everyday sights," remarked a painter, indicating the suddenly illuminated face of a man lighting a pipe "And probably the bardest on the eyes of the picturesque person," returned his companion, a physician. "That close and sudden flaring is harder on the op tic nerve than you imagine." - New

### CARAVAN EREADMAKING.

Afghans Use Cobblestones, While Tur-

comens Like Sand. The bread of the Afghan caravan was cooked by heating small round cobblestones in the fire and then poking them out and wrapping dough an inch thick about them. The balls thus formed were again thrown into the fire, to be poked out again when cooks ed. The bread tasted well there in the desert, although to civilized communities the grit and ashes would have seemed unendurable.

After good fellowship had been es tablished the Afghans actually sold us some flour, says a writer in the National Geographical Magazine. The camp where we used it a little later happened to be beside the sandy bed of a trickling salt stream, which was drinkable in winter, but absolutely unusable in summer, when evaporation is at its beight and the sait is concen-

"See," said one of our Turcomans as we dismounted; "here is some sand. Tonight we can have some good

When some dry twigs had been gathered he proceeded to smooth off a bit of the cleanest sand and built upon it a hot fire. When the sand was thoroughly hot he raked off most of the coals and smoothed the sand very neatly. Meanwhile one of the other men had made two large sheets of dough about three-quarters of an inch thick and eighteen inches in diameter. Between these he placed a layer of lumps of sheep's tail fat, making a huge round sandwich. This was now spread on the bot sand, coals mixed with sand were placed completely over it, and it was left to bake. Now and then an edge was uncovered, and a Turcomar smelled it appreciatively and rapped on it to see if it was yet cooked. When the top was thoroughly baked the bread was turned over and covered up again. It tasted even better than the Afghan bread after it was cooled a little and the sand and ashes had been whisked off with a girdle. The Turcomans are so accustomed to life in the sandy desert that they think it impossible to make the best kind of brend without sand, while the Aftains, think that cobblestones are a

#### THE ZANZIBARIS.

Dense Stupidity and Amusing Blunder of the Natives.

In the "Autobiography of Sir Henry M. Stanley" the author says of the colored natives of central Africa: "Good as the majority of Zanzibaria

were, some of them were indescribe bly and for me most unfortunately dense. One man who from his persona appearance might have been judged to be among the most intelligent wa after thirty months' experience with his musket unable to understand how it was to be loaded. He never could remember whether he ought to drop the powder or the bullet into the musket first. Another time he was sent with a man to transport a company of men over a river to camp. After waitthe river and found them paddling in opposite directions, each blaming the other for his stupidity and, being in a passion of excitement, unable to bear the advice of men across the river, who were bawling out to them how to manage their canon. "Another man was so ludicrously

stupid that he generally was saved from punishment because his mistakes were so absurd. We were one day floating down the Kongo, and, it being near camping time, I bade him, as he happened to be bownian on the occasion, to stand by and seize the grass on the bank to arrest the boat when I should call out. In a little while we came to a fit place, and I cried, 'Hold hard, Kirango! 'Please God, master,' he replied and forthwith sprang on the shore and seized the grass with both hands, while we, of course, were rapidly swept down river, leaving him alone and solitary on the bank. The boat's crew roared at the ridiculous sight, but nevertheless his stupidity cost the tired men a bard pull to ascend again, for not every place was available for a camp.

"He it was also who on an occasio when we required the branch of a spe cles of arbutus which overbung the river to be cut away to allow the ca noes to be brought nearer to the bank for safety actually went astride of the branch and chopped away until he fell into the water with the branch and lost our ax. He had seated himself on the outer end of the branch."

A Bunch of Kicks. "I'm in hard luck!" sighed the stee

"Look at me! I get nothing from morning till night but hot air," groaned the pumping engine, "I'm niways in hot water," sighed

the boller. "Consider my plight," cried the macadam road, "invariably walked over and trodden under foot."

"I'm used to it, for I'm always up against it," philosophically remarked the wall paper. "You're none of you as badly off as

I am," said the furnace, "for, no mat-ter where I go, I'm generally fired."-Baltimore American.

M. Labouchere was once held up by the German customs service and had all the contents thrown out of his

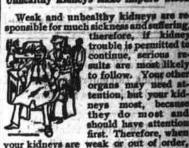
"Put those things back?" said he t the men who had emptied his trunks.
"That is your affair," they answered "I stay here until you do," he re-plied. "But give me a telegraph form." On the form M. Labouchere wrote:

To Prince Bismarck, Berlin,-Regret cannot breakfast with your hight omorrow. Held here ind Quick as lightning the officials pack

Lady (at railway station)—Now, por ter, are you sure I have all my luggage in the carriage? Porter-Yes, ma'am. Lady-Nothing left behind? Porter-Nothin, ma'am; not even apper, ma'am.-London Pun.

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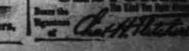
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