

### One Way to Get Rid of Rats.

"Old man Hiram Polley, of Wilmington, lived in a house that was full of rats once upon a time," said a Charlotte man yesterday, "and he took a new way to get rid of them."

"Mr. Polley was a tinner by trade. One day he caught a big rat and fastened a small bell around his neck with a copper wire. The little jingler was made secure and fast, the rodent given his liberty, and told to go his way rejoicing."

"This is when the fun began. You never saw such a scattering of rats in your life. The fellow with the bell had the right of way, and in less than 24 hours the house was free from rats."

"Mr. Polley was a tinner by trade, and a ship was loading about the time the rats left. Many of them entered the ship, and were carried North. Several weeks later the New York papers told of a rat that had been caught there, wearing a little bell, on with a piece of copper wire. It no doubt was the Wilmington rat."

This is the first chapter in the natural history series.—Charlotte Observer.

### Truckers Should Plant Largely of Early Peas.

The severe weather which we have experienced during February, and which has extended far down into Florida, is going to make a considerable shortage in early green vegetables, and on this account our markets will be very bear of green vegetables until late in the season. Indications are that the earliest crops of green vegetables will sell at good prices, both in our home markets and in the large cities North.

The opportunity presented to our southern truckers and gardeners, to make money out of peas and other early truck crops is one that they should not fail to take advantage of. Early peas are one of the first crops to come in and can be planted just as soon as the ground can be gotten ready.—Orphans' Friend.

### A Kissing Advertisement.

In many of the European cafes of the cheaper order it is the invariable custom to print the daily menu on the napkin provided for the guest, so that when the latter desires to study the bill of fare he has to raise his serviette from his knee in order to do so.

But perhaps the most extraordinary custom in connection with restaurant life is that which obtains in a certain little cafe in the suburbs of Paris, where every customer whose bill amounts to one shilling or over is entitled to receive a kiss from the attractive young lady who acts as cashier to the establishment.

So used has the damsel become to the osculatory routine that she goes through it without the slightest reticence, looking upon it purely as a matter of business, and it is reported that the proprietor of the restaurant is more than satisfied with the result of his curious device for attracting patrons.—London Tit-Bits.

### Pointed Paragraphs.

Most women would rather be loved than be trusted.

Hope is the one thing you can't bank on the average man out of.

It is just as easy to find fault with a tallow candle as with an electric light.

Many a man doesn't know what he is talking about until it is too late.

You may have observed that a good many people wear shoes on their understanding.

Just because his wife uses a little powder is no excuse for a man coming home drunk.

No woman can tell whether a hat is becoming to her until she ascertainment the price.

If tombstone epitaphs were reliable, his satanic majesty would have to look for another job.—Chicago News.

### How the Japs and Russians are Quartered.

A writer in the London Times tells of the way in which the Russian and Japanese armies pass the winter in Manchuria. About the middle of December the mercury may sink at night to 5, 10 and even 20 degrees below zero, and during January to 30. In the frequent blizzards no man can live under canvass, so the armies have to adopt a way the natives have of living.

The soil is dry and a trench 10 or 12 feet deep is dug, about 9 feet wide. A narrow stairway leads into the trench on the south side, down which the sun shines when a door at its base is opened. In this underground room is built a primitive cooking stove, and along the length of the trench is an earthen platform some 2½ feet high and 6 feet wide. Beneath this run several simple flues from the stove and the circulating smoke helps to give warmth to the persons who occupy the platform. The smoke issues then from a small chimney cut in the solid earth.

The trench is covered with poles and straw, and as no rain and but little snow falls it serves as good protection. The Japanese it is stated, have access to native surface coal mines that yield a coarse coal dust. Mixed with wet earth, it makes a good fuel. Housed thus in the ground the opposing armies are spending the winter. They are warm and comfortable, and this is one thing that discourages a resumption of open campaigning during the winter.—Selected.

### Do Not Confound Them.

There is a very important distinction between the regulation of a business by law and its extermination.

The difference is so great between these two measures that it ought to be, stated in the clearest and most unmistakable terms.

If the liquor business is to be regulated in accordance with law, let it be done by the people, just as it has been in this city, and in other places in the State. If on the other hand, the policy is to exterminate the business and drive it out of the State, or even off the earth, then let us declare the policy and go to the people on that issue. That will be consistent with the principles of Democracy and whatever the result of such an issue shall be, it will be accepted without protest on the part of anybody.—Raleigh Times.

### Said to Have Occurred Here.

In Harper's Weekly recently appeared an interesting account of Andrew Jackson's duel with Colonel Avery. A correspondent of The Weekly adds this to the story:

It was Jackson's habit to carry in his saddle-bags when he attended court a copy of "Bacon's Abridgment," and to make frequent appeals to it in his cases. This precious book was always carefully done up in coarse brown paper, and the unwrapping of the volume was a very solemn function as performed by Jackson, who was then only twenty-one years old. Avery, during the trial which preceded the duel, procured a piece of bacon the size of the book, and while Jackson was addressing the court he slipped out the volume from its wrapping and substituted the bit of pork.

At length Jackson had occasion to appeal to Lord Bacon. While still talking he raised the bearskin flap of his saddle-bags, drew out the brown-paper package, carefully untied the string, unfolded the paper with decorous gravity, and then, without looking at what he held in hand, exclaimed triumphantly, "We will now see what Bacon says."

What wonder that the fiery young lawyer blazed with anger, while the court-room rang with laughter at his expense!—Literary Digest.

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### Meeting of State Cotton Growers.

The State convention of cotton growers and business men met in Raleigh last week. There was a small attendance, probably on account of the weather, only 33 counties being represented.

The resolutions adopted endorse the action taken at New Orleans, declare that cotton ought to be held until after the June government report as to acreage, direct a thorough canvass by townships to reduce acreage 25 per cent., direct that exposed cotton be protected from the weather, and urge farmers not to store cotton with any factory which requires sale by any certain date. The name chosen is the "North Carolina Division, Southern Cotton Association." The following officers were elected: John A. Cunningham, president; A. C. Green, vice-president; T. B. Parker, secretary and treasurer. Executive committee: R. R. Cotten, Farkland; R. H. Speight, Whitakers; F. K. Borden, Goldsboro; W. A. Myatt, Raleigh; H. W. Lloyd, Chapel Hill; A. J. McKinnon, Maxton; H. C. Dockery, Rockingham; Z. A. Morris, Concord; McD. Watkins, Charlotte. Members of the national committee, J. A. Brown and J. P. Allison.

### Cases Compromised at Statesville.

The Libel case, United States versus 15 barrels of whiskey, the property of D. L. Arey, of Salisbury, has been compromised upon the payment of \$100 and costs, and the decree has been filed. The five civil cases, United States versus Garland D. Carrier and bondsmen, have been compromised upon the acceptance of proposition of \$300 and costs.—Statesville Landmark.

### What Missouri Gals Like.

A young man bearing the earmarks of an "agriculturalist" walked into a main street grocery last evening and called for a bottle of vanilla extract. Before opening the door to step back into the street, he pulled the cork, poured a few drops of the flavoring on his handkerchief, and as he placed the bottle in his vest pocket, remarked to the clerk: "If there is anything Missouri gals like better than chewin' gum, it's perfumery."—Joplin (Mo.) Globe.

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### January Clearance Sale.

#### Winter Underwear.

We have a big lot of it on hand and it must move in a hurry. We offer anything in Men's and boys' winter weight underwear at exactly wholesale price.

Boys heavy fleeced shirts at 19c ea.

Men's heavy shirts 19c ea.

Men's heavy fleeced shirts, the 50c grade at 38c ea.

Men's 50c drawers at 38c pr.

Men's blue flannel overshirts at 50c ea.

Men's dress shirts, regular 1.00 kind at 50c ea.

Heavy grey mixed socks 3 pr for 25c

Wool mixed socks 2 pr for 25c.

Suspenders 5c pr.

Ladies heavy wool hose 25c pr

Children's heavy ribbed hose 3 pr for 25c.

#### Sample Shoes.

500 Pairs Men's Womens' and Children's Shoes are being sold from ¼ to ½ less than regular retail price.

Children's 50c Shoes at 38c pr  
Children's 75c Shoes at 48c pr  
Women's \$1.25 & \$1.50 Shoes 98c  
Women's 1.50 & 2.00 shoes \$1.19  
Men's & Women's \$2 shoes, 1.48  
Men's \$2.50 & \$3 Shoes, \$1.98

#### Hats.

For the next 10 days we will offer all Men's and Boy's felt and fur hats at a discount of 20 per cent.

#### Blankets.

All blankets and comforts are being sold at a discount of 20 per cent.

#### SPECIAL VALUES IN LACE AND EMBROIDERY.

5000 yds Embroidery ranging in price from 10c to 20c yard, price in this sale, 10c yd

5000 yds Torchon Lace ranging in price from 5c to 10c, price in this sale 4c yd

1000 yds Torchon and plait val. laces this sale at 5c yd.

#### Dress Goods Department

54 in. Waterproof goods at 39c yd

50 in. Flannel at 20c yd  
Worsted goods from 10c yd to 25c yd

40 in. Worsted goods at 20c yd  
Tricot Flannel at 20c yd  
Wool goods, 50c grades, at 39c yd

2000 yds 10c Percale at 7½c yd

Outing at 4c yd.

Unbleached domestic at 3c yd

Best Calico at 5c and 6c yd

Apron Gingham at 5c yd

Pants cloth at 5c yd

Bleached Domestic at 6c yd

Table oilcloth at 15c yd

Heavy outing, light colors, at 7½c

40 in. India Linen at 10c yd

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