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The Reople's Press.

JOB PRINTING

THE PRESS JOB DEPARTMENT

is supplied with all necessary material, and is fully prepared to do work with

MEATNESS, DISPATCH, AND AT THE

He sure to give us a trial before cen

VERY LOWEST PRICES

Central and South America are eager for more railroads. So is Mexico.

We have in this country about one postoffice to each 1000 inhabitants. Numerous postoffices are a sign of an intelligent people.

Amherst College claims the honor of having been the first institution in the country to make physical exercise a compulsory part of the college course. This it did in 1861.

The plan of forming an athletic association from members of the New York National Guard is, declares the San Francisco Chronicle, a good one. The training will be of more service in physical development than the regular drill.

According to Bradstreet's the consumption of fruit in the United States, as of many other products, exceeds that of any other country. Although large producers and exporters, we are still dependent to a considerable extent upon foreign countries for supplies.

The women's building at the Chicago fair is to be next door to the United States Government building. Uncle Sam will find out, predicts the Boston Transcript, that Columbia's daughters mean to help in the government before Columbus has discovered this country another 400 years. .

.Canine fidelity, according to a recent writer, is declining. As careful breeding develops the beauty and amiability of the dog the stronger and more savage traits of his nature are eliminated; and though gentler, and a safer pet, the dog of the future will lack the intensity of devotion which marked former types.

The farmers have now in Pennsylvania, for two years, been relieved of the heavy burden of fencing their growing crops to protect them. Generally the change gives satisfaction, states the New York Independent, though in the wooded areas these who have been accustomed to leave their stock to run at large, feel it to be a burden placed upon them that they can no longer do this. There is little doubt but that fences will finally disappear in that State on farm

After calling attention to the fact that only five per cent., or 18,270, of the total immigration to this country during the last fiscal year settled in the South, the New Orleans Times-Democrat says: "The question of foreign immigration, therefore, can scarcely be regarded as a pressing problem in this section, since a movement of this size is inappreciable in its effects. There is a considerable immigration into the South, but it is from the North and West, of persons of Americaa · birth, so that this section remains distinctively American in race and nation-

Missouri's peach crop last year was estimated at \$10,000,000. This year it is larger, and judging from the activity of the fruit-growers, the State in a few years will rank first as a peach producer. What is is known as the Ozark belt in southwestern Missouri is particularly favorable to the growth of this fruit. The rolling plateaus possesses a rich red soil; they are free from winds and are blessed with abundance of rain. Last year over three millions of trees were set out, covering an area of twenty thousand acres.

A still greater number of trees will be

planted this year.

An insurance man is responsible for the following statement: "The complete record of fire losses in New York City for the first seven months of the current year is about equal to the amount paid in for insurance. The premiums for the whole year amount to \$5,500,000, and the losses up to the present date are a little over \$4,500,000. Deduct from what is left the office expenses, and if we don't have another fire in five months we may skin through without actual loss. That's the best showing we can make. The real trouble is with the companies themselves that fight and cut one another's throats in the struggle for business. It is no wonder that the stockholders are becoming dissatisfied because of the inadequateness of the dividends."

upper stories of some of the buildings in Lynn, Mass., were burned recently, without the privilege of a drop of water; they were too high to be within the reach of the Fire Department. The existence of similar buildings in other cities besides Lynn affords him occasion to call attention to an important reform in the method of meeting danger and loss by fires. He advocates the attaching of pipes not less than five inches in diameter at various points along the water-mains, and carrying them to the roofs of flat-roofed buildings, where water can be thrown in heavy streams from this vantage-ground on neighboring premises. He estimates that such a roof-hydrant service would cost \$1600 an acre. He thinks that larger pipes making the service cost \$2000 an acre would be still better. That it would be an important safeguard against fire there is no doubt, but it is to be feared that public opinion must be educated considerably yet by the rough experience of heavy losses before the reform will be

OUTWARD BOUND. Out upon the unknown deep, Where the unheard oceans sound, Where the unseen islands sleep,

Outward bound. Following toward the silent west, O'er the horizon's curved rim, On to islands of the blest, He with me and I with him. Outward bound.

Nothing but a speck we seem In the waste of waters round, Floating, floating like a dream, Outward bound.

But within that tiny speck Two brave hearts with one accord, Past all tumult, pain and wreck, Look up calm and praise the Lord, Outward bound.

-Dinah Muloch Craik. OVER THE GRADE.

BY JOHN F. BARNES.

Haif-way up a great California moun tain, upon a shelf or level space called Johnson's Flat, a few sheds and cabins clustered about the shaft of the Monte Christo mine.

One of these cabins—the best of them of the mine. He was Doctor Green, and | mountain. he had been a successful surgeon in an Eastern city. Ill bealth had compelled him to remove to these parts, and he had taken up the occupation of mining.

Down the mountain, to Gaylord's staonly one wagon, except in two or three | shade her.' places where turn-outs had been cut into the side of the mountain.

In such places a wagon-might wait for it. another to pass; and teams going up had the right of way. There was very little about three or four miles an hour, so travel on the road.

The descent from the outer edge of this Dead Man's Point. path was often almost perpendicular. "Alice, lying back upon her pillows, One bend, where the road wound around had been much charmed all the way by man and a horse and wagon had gone to pieces on the rocks below.

Mexican boy, called Pete. He was a the canon on our left hand, which we faithful and hard-working boy, and had seemed almost to overhang. but one enemy in the world. That was

dump, and was generally attached to a behind him. heavy and very strong two-wheeled cart.

that the boy's life was despaired of. escape was impossible. Even if I could Pete certainly would have been killed if have climbed from the wagon, it would Dennis McCarthy, the owner of the mule, have done no good; and what of the sick had not interposed just in time to save girl?

the deadliest fear of Old Lightning.

One day in May, when the supply wagon from Johnson's Flat returned said, 'you must do it!' from Gaylord's with a load, a telegram Green. It stated that her niece, an in- from the wagon like a flash. Gaylord's on the following Monday.

pillows, and a safe team of mules pro-

The train from the East was due at eleven o'clock in the forenoon, but was many hours late on account of a washout. from my sight, leaving only in view the Arrangements were made, therefore, for winding mountain road, with poor Pete Mrs. Green and the invalid girl to re- lying with torn clothing and bleeding main at Gaylord's over night; and no one face in the middle of it. at Johnson's Flat expected them until

Dennis McCarthy worked all day on bottom of the canon. Monday at his usual occupation of haulunwilling to admit that Lightning had that the mule was more than usually

west of the camp, and the last load for that the danger was past. the day was put into the cart to be hauled to the dump.

before Dennis could reach him, he was quite out of breath. ning up the hillside into a clump of bushes; but the mule had become frantic, and urged on by the loaded cart behind him and frightened by the noise it made, dashed furiously on down the grade, with Dennis in full pursuit at an everwidening distance behind.

mine, gathered at a place where the grade was plainly visible all the way to Dead Man's Point, nearly two miles be-

"Sure," said one of the miners, "I hope there's no one on the grade about now. 'Twould be a bad day for 'em to meet Old Lighteniug, with all that load of rock in the cart, too. They'd all go to the bottom of the canon together."

"Never fear," said another, "there's nobody on it at this time. There'll be no danger to any one but Old Lightning. and I'm thinking he'll never cart any more tailings."

Among the others who stood looking lown the grade was the superintendent, Doctor Green. The flying cart and mule were momentarily lost sight of at a slight curve, and most of the men were looking at the figure of Dennis far behind, but running as if his life depended

several others rushed forward to the edge of the flat.

Just coming into view at Dead Man's Point, and turning the curve so that the precipice was at its very wheel, was the camp wagon. In it were Mrs. Green, the invalid girl, and Pete; and the mule and heavily loaded cart were almost up- strength, too, in the healing, invigorat-

There was barely enough room for one wagon. They must go over the grade, fall the dreadful distance and be crushed

below. The people at the mine did not know what she said :

"As soon as we reached Gaylord's we mule. learned that the Overland train had been o'clock it arrived with my niece, Alice, on board.

"We took dinner at Mrs. Atwood's, where we had arranged to stay over night; and as niece was tired of travel, and as I knew that the accommodations we had prepared for her at home were better than she could obtain at Gaylord's all-was occupied by the superintendent I made up my mind to push on up the

"As we were driving away, Mrs. Atwood called to us, and came running out with a large blue cotton umbrella. "'You'd better take this,' she said; 'you are going just away from the sun, tion on the Pacific Railroad twelve miles and it will shine in at the back of the away, led a narrow cart-path, called a wagon and make the poor girl uncom-"grade" here. It was wide enough for fortable if you don't have something to

"We took it, although I hardly thought it would be necessary to spread

"The mules kept along at the rate of that at five o'clock we were approaching

a promontory, was called Dead Man's the scenery. So, as we came to Dead Point, because tradition had it that a Man's Point, and stopped to allow the over the grade here, and had been dashed tion to the grandeur of the view here. "But she could hardly look at it, she There was employed about the mine a was in such fear of the deep chasm of

"While we looked, and I assured her "Old Lightning," an unusually large that there was not the slightest danger, mule .-- heavy, bony, and extremely vic- I heard an exclamation from Pete. Looking up the grade, I saw, coming like a This mule was used to haul the refuse whirlwind around a little bend, Old from the mouth of the mine to the Lightning, with his heavy cart bounding

"I saw it as one sees objects revealed Most of the men employed about the by a flash of lightning in a dark night. mine were much afraid of the animal, for Instantly I thought of our fate, for nothhe was always ready to use his teeth or ing could stop him, and when he struck us we must be hurled over the precipice. He seemed to bear a particular spite "I was paralyzed with fear; everytoward Pete, and had at one time, in- thing turned black before me. I had a deed, bitten and kicked him so severely | wild desire to escape, but I knew that

"While I looked, and while these As it was, Pete was badly hurt, and thoughts flashed through my mind, I saw might not have recovered if Mrs. Green, Peter throw all his weight on the lever the superintendent's wife, had not taken of the brake, forcing it down to the last him to her cabin and nursed him back to notch, and locking the wheels so that it life. The grateful boy had the deepest was impossible for them to turn. affection for Mrs. Green after this, and Then he thrust the reius and whip into my hands.

"'Keep the team steady, ma'am,' he "He seized something under the seat, from the East was brought to Mrs. and before I could speak, he was gone

valid, had been taken worse, and had "For one moment I basely supposed been ordered to go to California imme- he was going to save himself by climbing diately; and that she would arrive at the almost perpendicular side of the mountain, which no doubt he might Preparations were made at once to have done-he is so quick and agile. meet the invalid young lady at the sta- But the next moment I saw him rushing tion and bring her up the mountains as toward the on-coming mule and cart, comfortably as possible. The camp- and wondered in a stupid way why he wagon was stuffed with mattresses and showed so little fear of his old enemy.

"While I looked, unable to turn my eyes, and knowing that surely he must Pete was to be taken as driver. He be killed, I saw him make a stand in the was an excellent driver, understood the path, and suddenly spread the big blue use of the brake, knew the road per- umbrella directly in the face of the mule. fectly, and was afraid of nothing except I saw the mule as suddenly swerve a little toward the edge of the precipice. "In that instant the off wheel of the heavy cart went over the grade, and seldom on time, and had lately been amid a cloud of dust everything vanished

as it bounded from rock to rock to the aires of Europe control certain vine-

"I was so frightened, so dazed that I and cart; and though he was generally dare to leave the wagon to go to Pete's ransom. assistance, for the mules were much faults, he was heard occasionally to excited, and I had hard work to grumble, and to make remarks indicating keep them from trying to turn around. "Fortunately, Alice had not realized

could get to Pete, who had saved our tiate its quality. Just at this time one of the men, in lives, perhaps at the sacrifice of his own.

passing, made a playful motion toward I saw Dennis McCarthy coming around

but where is me mule an' me cart?' " 'Over the grade,' I answered.

"He said nothing more, but bent over the body of poor Pete. "Is he dead?' I asked.

"'No, ma'am,' said Dennis, 'he is The men, who were just leaving the out of him, and I'm thinkin' he's dreadfully hurt. We must contrive to lay him in the wagon and get him to the camp as soon as we can.'

made a comfortable place at the back of

procession on its way up to the camp. His services as a doctor were needed by all three of the people in the wagon, by poor mangled Pete, who lay unconscious; by the sick girl, now fainting; and by his wife, upon whom a nervous

But his skill was equal to the need. then pull the trigger as many times as he watchful position in which the artist one of Pete's legs was broken, and he wants to shoot. The gun is accurate at has taken it. The bite can be inflicted

Suddenly the superintendent uttered Mrs. Green, who soon recovered her an exclamation of horror, and he and own strength, nursed him carefully and tenderly. Before long he was again on his feet.

> Within a year's time Doctor Green sent him to San Francisco to school, with the intention to train him thorougly as a mining engineer. The young girl gained rapidly in

ing mountain air, and before many weeks was well on the way to recovery. Perhans the most wonderful part of the story is to come. After Dennis Mc-Carthy had walked up to the Flat with the little party who had gone down to exactly what happened until Mrs. Green | meet Mrs. Green and poor Pete, he set was able to tell her story; and this is off again down the mountain, with two companions, to find the remains of his

When they reached the place where telegraphed as on time, greatly to the be went over the grade, they were assurprise of every one; and at eleven tonished to see Old Lightning, only a short distance down the side of the canon, wedged in between two fir-trees -the only ones to be seen far of near along the precipice. The heavy shafts of the cart had

> broken off like pipestems, and the vehicle was smashed literally to kindlingwood at the bottom of the ravine. A windlass and tackle were brought lown from the camp, and with great difficulty Old Lightning was drawn up,

groaning badly, but apparently not much injured. Before long he was at work again on

The Pigmies of the African Forest.

During the very hungriest time speut by Stanley's expedition in going through the dense forest, it happened that the discovery of a little child of the dwarf tribe proved truly providential.

Upon approaching one of the settleion had an enormously big head, Indian Ocean.

his parents .- St. Nicholas.

The tea plant is as sensitive and delicate as a West Walnut street belle. It flourishes best on a mountain side, where it is neither very warm nor cool, where the soil is dry but the rains and dews are frequent, where the force of the wind is broken by adjacent woods or hills, where there is a maximum of sunlight and, according to the Celestials, of moonlight, and where the surrounding ground is kept free from weeds or other vegetable growths. There are farms in Formosa, Fo-Kien and other tea districts where these conditions exist unchangingly, whose tea crop is as famous and distinctly known in the eastern world as the various chateaux of France are to the wine "Then I heard the crashing of the cart experts of Europe. Just as the millionyards, so do the millionaires of the Flowery Kingdom control tea plantations ing refuse to the dump with his big mule did not know what to do. I did not whose annual output is worth a king's

learn from the Chinese is the proper mode of packing the leaf. That which goes to America is dumped, as soon as it the situation, for her view toward the is "fired," burning hot into a lead-lined The day's work was nearly done. The front was obstructed; and when she box, the lead is soldered and the airsun was approaching the tops of the auxiously asked what was the matter, I tight coffin is sent around the globe in mountains across the deep gorge to the was able to quiet her, by assuring her the hot hold of a steamer. The tea sweats and undergoes many changes "While I was trying to think how I which alter its flavor altogether and vi-

in strong paper packages, and these in the old mule. Quick as a flash he sprang the bend. He was without hat or jacket; turn in mortuary lead; the better kind at the man, dragging the heavy cart, and one shoe was gone, and he seemed to be in soft-tin paper covered boxes; still better ones in silver foil inside of one-pound Mr. Edward Atkinson learns that the going at full speed down the grade. | "The Lord be praised!" he gasped, cases made of split sun-dried bamboo, The man saved himself by quickly run- when he saw us; 'ye're safe, for sure, and the best in porcelain jars and vases

A New Rapid-Firing Gue.

Says a Tuscarora (Nev.) miner: "Very little has appeared in the papers about not, but the breath is mostly knocked new rapid-firing gun which was recently invented by R. M. Catlin, a mine Superintendent of our town. This gun has a Winchester band and stock, with a fifteen-repeating magazine in the stock. It "It was well we had such a stock of is a trifle heavier than the ordinary Winblankets and pillows; and we easily chester, but its great feature is that the whole fifteen shots may be fired in one the wagon, where we laid the bruised second. This statement may sound as and wounded boy, and then started on." | though I had revived the Sazerac lying This was the faithful account of what club, but it is an actual fact. The shells happened which Mrs. Green told her hus- are thrown out, and at the end of the firband later. He himself could have told ling the gun is as clean as though only a with what emotions he met the little single cartridge had been exploded. An instantaneous photo was taken of the gun in action, and while the exposure was made five shells were in the air tossed out the gun. All that the man who does the shooting has to do is to fill the chamber with cartridges, cock the gun, and had suffered other injuries. The bone short or long range,"—New York Tri- sideways, but the snake cannot turn sudways set and the wounds dressed; and bune.

FOND OF SNAKES.

A MAN WHO HAS MADE THEIR

Professor O'Reilly Characterizes Some of the Stories About the Habits of Snakes as Myths, Pure and Simple,

There is a man at present in New York who fairly dotes on snakes. He has seen thousands of them. He wishes to see thousands more. His name is G. R. O'Reilly. His home is in Trinidad. Mr. O'Reilly has been the editor of a newspaper and a professor in Ireland. He, too, was a professor of a school in Trinidad. He is a corresponding member of the Royal Zoological Society. He has been to the four corners of the weild. Natives regarded him as a

the dump .- Youth's Companion.

ments of these people, the natives, fear-ing that the Arabs were upon them, hastily retreated to the depths of the jungle, leaving in the village one of the young children. He was an ungainly little creature, and from Saleh's descriptruding lower jaw, lean frame and ungainly fat body. The Zanzibaris sat about in dejected groups, complaining of their present hard existence, and the sad contrast of to-day with their joyous life in their island home away in the

The little Teki-Teki (pigmy), although not more than three years old, was busily searching for something in the dry leaves. The Zanzibaris were attracted by the child's activity. Presently the sparkle of his eyes and the increased earnestness of his hunt showed that he had been successful; and, indeed, he returned to the camp-fire carrying a lot of pods like enormous beans. These he scraped to a fine powder, which he damped, rolled in some big leaves, and then toasted in the ashes. When cooked to his satisfaction he opened the dainty package and the whole camp became filled with the pleasant odor of this new dish. The men of the expedition then closed around, and, much to the young Teki-Teki's disgust, helped themselves to a tasting pinch. The Zanzibaris knew the tree quite well; it was 'makneme." This new discovery brought a gleam of hope to the hearts of these hungry beings. The capture of the tiny woodsman was a godsend, and Saleh said that had this unhappy little creature but faintly understood their language he would have been overwhelmed with the heartfelt blessings showered on him. A few days afterward another tribe of these same small people was met, and the child was handed over to them to be returned to

Growing and Packing Tea.

Another point of the many we have to

The Mongolian packs the poorest kind -Chicago Herald.

HABITS HIS LIFE STUDY.

witch-doeter," because of his knowl-



FRICAN PUFF ADDER ABOUT TO STRIKE

Mr. O'Reilly has lived with snakes night and day for sixteen years. He comes to the United States to wage war in behalf of his pets. He has brought with him a large collection of snakes. He consented to impart to readers of the World some of his scientific discoveries regarding scrpents. These discoveries are the result of patient and enthusiastic

Two representatives of the World, a reporter and an artist, visited Mr. O'Reilly at the Central Park Menagerie, where he has his collection. He had just taken a large and repulsive-looking boa constricter from its box for an airing. The monster was squirming about on a heap of stones, hissing at intervals and now and again darting out an ugly ferked tongue. The hideous flat head rose with a sudden forward movement and the jaws opened threateningly.

Mr. O'Reilly's explanation that the snake was frightened and merely on a voyage of discovery was unheeded. One glance at those distended jaws, and, with all due respect to science, the World men decided that the branches of a convenient tree were the best position from which to pursue their scientific investigations. Mr. O'Reilly informed the reporter that the boa was known as a macajuel in Brazil.

He then proceeded to show how ha hunted snakes. Taking in his hand a long, thin stick bent at an angle of forty-five degrees about six inches from the end, he pinned the wriggling reptile's head to the ground. To catch it by the neck, preventing its striking, and to lift it up was then an easy matter. Mr. O'Reilly was ready to talk about his pets. He spoke with just an indication of the County Claire brogue. "People here don't know all they might about snakes," said he, "and I've come here to enlighten them. In the first place, the idea that full-grown men are swallowed by boas I believe to be a myth. As for the American boas, I have seen nene that can swallow more than a half-

grown goat. An anaconda over twenty feet long is rare. "The largest snake on record, an Indian osthon reticulatus, now in London, is only twenty-six feet long. It weighs about 224 pounds. Boas do not cover their prey with saliva before swallowing it. The saliva merely lubricates the prey during the process of deglutition, Young snakes do not take refuge in their mother's stomach. Snakes sucking cows and hoop snakes rolling along with their tails in their mouths are inventions worthy of

the author of the 'Arabian Nights.' "There's the fable about whip-snakes banging from trees in Brezil and lashing the unsuspecting waylarer. You'll find it in most natural history books. Here are some of them"-he pointed to a glass-covered box containing two long and lean gray snakes with curiously elongated heads-"and you can see how



CATCHING THE BOA CONSTRICTOR. their shape started the story. They are called scientifically cryiophiæ acuminatæ,

are about half an inch in diameter at the thickest part and five feet long. "Here is their exact opposite in shape." Mr. O'Reilly turned to another cage, containing a South African puff-adder, or clotho arietans. It was three feet long and three inches in diameter.

"There is a story affoat," he said, "regarding the manner in which this snake strikes. It is said to be able to turn over backward and catch at its prey. You can see what caused the delusion.

Mr. O'Reilly aroused the adder with a pole. The coils unwound until the reptile showed the deadly arsenal it carrie. 1. rigid neck. The forked tongue played in and out. The parti-colored eyes by the inconceivably rapid working of gleamed wickedly, and with a swift lateral thrust of the head the fangs gleamed an instant in the sunlight. Then the snake shrank back suddenly to the

"I've no faith in the fascination of snakes' eyes," said the professor. "It's the same fear which draws birds around a hawk or owl, or small boys around a

wild bull, that leads little birds to curiously inspect a motionless snake. Then they get killed for their curiosity." "Do you not consider snakes slimy and dirty animals?"

"No snake is slimy. 'All are perfectly clean and odorless. The reputation of snakes for sliminess and victous cunning is all a mistake, not at all borne out by facts. Snakes are the most tumid animals in creation, and 'tis that very fear that occasionaly makes them attack. Then they kill their prey quickly. I have repeatedly seen the rattlesnake and South American puff-adder strike animals dead almost instantly-that is, in three or four seconds."
"How about the beltet that a snake

may live till sundown with his head crushed and broken back?"

"Snakes are very tenacious of life, but as for saying that when a snake is killed in the morning it won't die until night -excuse my Irish phraseology-this is quite untrue, if the snake is killed prop-

The reporter asked whether Mr. O'Reilly had ever tried snake-charming. "Snake-charming? There is no such thing. I can do everything with a snake the so-called charmers do. I can make cobras dance without music, because cobras never hear the music, having no Snakes are sensitive to sound when there's a vioration in objects in contact with their skins. They also have an appreciation of sound through the delicate nerves of the tongue. "Here is a curious fact: The sense of

sight in snakes is very keen for motion, but very dull for form and color. For instance, I have repeatedly seen my snakes and those in the woods pass within a few inches of their prey without sooing it as long as it remained motionless. The moment it moved they resumed the chase. They have the sense of smell, but it's dull, as are all their senses. They must be studied from a different standpoint from all other animals on this account, and he who tries to explain snakes actions from what I might call a mainmalian standpoint would be constantly in error."

Mr. O'Reilly said he didn't believe in the scake remedies popular in many countries. "I believe in the knife, but not in cauterization. If a person is bitten in a fleshy part, and the venom not directly injected into vein or artery, cutting with a knife to the same depth as



CARRYING HIS SNAKESHIP HOME.

the snake's fang has penetrated, and afterwards sucking the place strongly, will remove nearly every vestige of the poison. Though never bitten myself, I have invariably seen that absorption

from flesh-wounds is slo .. "The supposed cures effected by socalled remedies are due to the fact that persons are often bitten by harmless snakes. Numberless instances occur where people die through sheer fright. A glass of whisky to restore their courage is the best remedy, although the common belief as to large amounts of whisky forming an antidote is ridiculous. "I consider that snakes play a most useful role in creation, even the most venomous kinds. Were it not for the deadly puff adder in South Africa the country would be overrun by a species of field mouse. The adder destroys them by the thousand. In every country snakes prey upon the smaller destructive animals, and are thus the farmers' friends. My experience in about twenty countries is that harmless snakes are called deadly by the ignorant and unobservant. Thus it is that we hear of so many rattlesnakes, moccasins, etc. The innocent suffer for

"How often should I water my pot plants?" A general answer to this perplexing question, given by William Saunders, is: Never apply water to a plant until it requires it, that is, until it is dry, and then apply a sufficient quantity to saturate the soil, which will be indicated by the surplus passing through the drainage.

An Old Portrait of Columbus. An old portrait of Christopher Columbus that was recently discovered at Como derives its value - not only from

scarcity of authentic likenesses of the



DEL PIOMBO'S PORTRAIT OF COLUMBUS. as it was painted by Sebastian del Piombo. It was formerly regarded as an heirloom in the family, now extinct, of the Giovios, and was in the possession of the writer Paul Giovio, who refers to it in his works, and had it engraved. On the failure of the male branch of the Giovio family, the portrait passed, two generations ago, to the De Orchi family, and is now in the possession of Dr. de Orchi, of Como. — Chicago Post.

WORDS OF WISDOM.

Learn to explain thy doctrine by thy

Death breaks the lantern, but cannot put out the candle. Language was given that we might say pleasant things to each other.

Reason is that ingenuity of the mind with which men justify their preju-Purchasing luxuries and skimping on necessities and comforts is not wise

The excuse of every man who does not mind his own business is that he is trying to do good.

Economy, rightly understood, is not refusing to spend money; it is spending money judiciously. It is about as hard to find a man who

will not help you spend money as it is to find a man who will help you to No state can be more destitute than

that of a person, who, when the delights of sense forsake him, has no pleasures of

It is the bounty of nature that we live, but of philosophy, that we live well; which is, in truth, a greater benefit than life itself.

It is with narrow-souled people as with narrow-necked bottles; the less they have in them, the more noise they make in pouring it out.

Indolence is a delightful but distressing state; we must be doing something to be happy. Action is no less necessarv than thought to the instinctive tendencies of the human frame.

Oddities and singularities of behavior may attend genius; but when they do, they are its misfortunes and blemishes. The man of true genius will be ashame.l of them, or at least will never affect to be distinguished by them. There is pedantry in manners, as in

all arts and sciences, and sometimes in

trades. Pedantry is properly the over-

tend to, and if the kind of knowledge

rating any kind of knowledge we

be a trifle in itself, the pedantry is the

Flower Making in Paris. "The manufacture of flowers and also of feathers for millinery purposes in France is a family affair," said O. B. Tennis, the well-known importer, after a two months' stay in Paris. "For instance," continued Mr. Tennis, "one family devotes itself to the making of roses and does nothing else. The man and his wife are equal partners and the children, and sometimes young relatives, who come up from the country for that purpose, assist in the work. Notwithstanding the fact that France furnishes the largest proportion of these goods for the world, there is not within its limits what we here in America know as a manufactory for making them. Each worker is a specialist, and those who work with him are individually interested in the work. Nothing is scamped or

"There are some of these people," said Mr. Tennis, "who are real artists. It is not the material used that makes articles of this kind expensive or the reverse, but the way in which they are made. The prices which these flower-making families are able to command for their goods depend upon the originality and creative ability displayed, whether it is roses or orchids, pansies or dahlias that they make. By the way, it is usually the women who furnish the original ideas. You see, in France marriage in no way interferes with a woman's profession, but rather increases her desire and opportunity for pursuing it. Among the flower makers the commercial part of the business is undertaken by the men. As soon as I arrive in Paris I notify the different makers of flowers of my arrival, and the man of the family calls at once, bringing with him numerous boxes-often he brings them on his back-containing samples of his latest work. If I find what I want, possibly I do not see Madam; if not, I go to the home, which is also the place of business, and she is able to catch my idea and my order is filled satisfactorily."-

"The Moodus Noises."

"The Moodus noises" have been heard again. It is about a dozen years since they were heard. Moodus is a village in the Connecticut town of East Haddam, and is famous for its drum corps and its "noises." But the drum corps is not responsible for the "noises." These latter originate and emanate from Mount Tom, a lofty hill which towers above Moodus. The "noises" are intermittent. Sometimes the mountain is silent twenty-five or thirty years. The "noises" are described as beginning with a seemingly far-away low rumbling note, that speedily swells in volume and intensity, and culminates in a vast rolling sound, like the muttering of distant thunder, and the ground trembles as if with the three of an earthquake. The "noises," which have been quiet about ten years, were heard again a week ago, but they were not of the old-time vigor, great navigator, but from its art history, and continued but a few moments. No satisfactory explanation has ever been given of the cause of the "noises," but they have resulted in many quaint superstitions and legendary tales. Thorough scientific investigation would probably result in a simple explanation of that which is now a perplexing problem .-Springfield Republican.

Queer Rain Superstition.

The telegraph wires between Madison and Greensboro', Fla., were disabled a few days ago, and the manager started out to discover the cause. A few miles from Greensboro' he found two mammoth snakes hanging across the wires in such a manner as to connect the current of each. The snakes had been killed, tied together and hung out to bring rain, the work being done by colored people in the neighborhood.—Boston Tran-

Good Waterproof Blacking.

A good waterproof blacking is composed of the following ingredients: two ounces of beeswar, two punces of tallow, two ounces of spermaceti, one tablespoonful of lampblack. Mix all well together and stir well. Apply warm with a brush and when cold polish like ordinary blacking. Broken ends of candles will do for the spermaceti. - New York Tribune.

GOLDEN LIGHT. Oh, the light that lies in a maiden's even As she meets the fervid glance of her

Is brighter far than the gleam of the star That shines in the darkness above her. And the fleeting flush of the maiden's blush, The bloom of the rose defying,

Like the dream of the zephyr dying. And the power to beguile in a maiden's

And the sound of her voice so thrilling, Makes a lover crave to become her slave,

Her slightest behest fulfilling.

to a picnic .- Picayune.

O'er her countenance flies as the malden

PITH AND POINT.

A wind instrument-The clock. An unpleasant mood-The imperative. If a man wants to dine out let him go

"I'm not in it," as the lemon said when the circus lemonade was pussed Great guns, whether of iron and steel,

"That was a cruel fling," remarked

Goliah to David .- Washington Star.

or flesh and blood, have their trials .-Boston Transcript. "Farewell," said he. And she replie l, As he in sorrow left her side, "Tis needless, sir, for me to say I shall fare well when you're away."

Solus-"Even married life, I fancy, is

not all sunshine." Benedict-"Good deal of moonshipe about it."-Boston Transcript. Twice during the year man feels the need of rest-once just before his vaca-

tion and again immediately after .- Etmira Gazette. It is a mistake about it being unhealthy to sleep in feathers. Look at the spring chicken and see how tough he is .- Rich

mond Recorder. Which way the winds do blow, The straw will surely show-But really as for that,

Things one would rather have left un-

written: Proud Father (reading his son's

school report)-"Manners vulgar-very vulgar. But perhaps this is here litary!" Father- 'It is the early bird that catches the worm." Johnny-"That's so; but it is the little birds that stay at

home sleeping in the nest that get the worm to eat."—Bazar.

To get acquainted with people's ob-

jectionable idiosyncracies you must travel

with them. Of course there is no danger of their getting acquainted with your objectionable idiosyncracies while traveling with you .- Somerville Journal. The dress was displayed in the dry-goods

store, It was richer than that which the maiden wore;
She looked at it, sighed and shook her head,
"I am not in it," was what she said.

—Buffalo Evening News; Wife (steroly)-"Was that you singing, Mr. Heavysides?" Heavysides (meekly)-"Yes, dear. I sometimes sing when I am alone." Wife-"You have more consideration for the feelings of

others than I had given you credit for.'

His Life Devoted to Spiders. "One of the curious things of this life," remarked an ex-Congressman, "is the devotion of some men to an idea without regard to the opinion of the rest of the world and without hope of reward. I know of a man from my State who has devoted a lifetime to spiders. He died in the Alps, where he had been for two years collecting specimens of spiders. He sacrificed his life to spiders. He has left a co'lection of some twenty-eight thousand distinct varieties. You would hardly think there were many more spiders in existence.

This man has them stuck up in sections, in classes, fully labeled. "He began fooling with spiders when a boy. He had a room that he would allow no one to sweep or clean, and encouraged the spiders to such an extent that they would come to him and feed on his hand. He discovered that by repeatedly destroying a web a spider reached a stage where his power of reproducing web is exhausted. When that stage was reached the spider attacked another spider, killed him and took his ball of web from him. Just like a human being, don't you see? Before this man died he embalmed his knowl-

edge of spiders in two volumes. He was a spider crank."-New York Herald.

Light and Electricity. Philadelphia scientists are preparing to find out how fast an electric current travels. An experiment will be made, probably from the Franklin Institute, by connections over the Atlantic cable to Liverpool and return. A recent test appeared to show that an electric current shuffled over to Europe and back in something like a second, or at the rate of only some 400,000 miles a minute. while light ambles along at a ten-millionmile-a-minute gait. American scientists are not willing to give up the record to

The most recent experiment was tried at McGill College, Montreal, to Liverpool and return. The distance traversed was 8000 miles. Time, one second and one-twentieth of a second. The conditions were not good. Hence the neces. sity for another experiment. Some enthusiastic electricians claim that a current will speed around the world in a trifle over three seconds, or cover the distance to the sun. 96,000,000 miles, in three and one-half minutes .- Chicago

Herald. Three Thousand Volcanoes.

The San Diegan, of San Diego, Cal.,

publishes a descriptive account by Colonel Allen, a well-known engineer, of a phenomenon in what is known as the volcanic region of the Cocapah Mountains, situated sixty-five miles southwest of Yuma in Lower California. Colonel Allen says there are over 3000 active volcanoes there, one-half of which are small cones ten or twelve feet at the base, the remaining half five to forty feet at the base and fifteen to twenty-five feet in height. The whole voicanic region is encrusted with sulphur. One peculiar feature of the region is a lake of water jet black, which is a quarter of a mile in length and one-eight of a mille in width seemingly bottomless. The water is hot