#### Meaner than the meanest:

Sinner Who Carried a Bettle in His Pecket,

Be got on the train at Van Nostrand and ant down beside me. He was long, them and linky. First he looked out of the car window and then at me, says as writer in the New York Herald. Set-gling deeper into his seat he suddenly bremarked:

"Dry day, ch?"

I merely nodded my head affirma-

"Do you drink, young man?"

Fanid I didn't mind if I did

H waid I didn't mind if I did.

He said he would mind, though.

"Furthermore," he continued, "I am

-surprised that a man of your modest

suppearances, with eyes denoting Chris
than breeding, a forehead denoting

good moral character and a mouth too

pure to withstand the taint of intem
perance, should be willing to indulge

that the flowing bowl."

Beould only squirm about in my seat and prepare myself for an 18-karat temperance lecture about to be thrust upon me.

\*And, young man, do you know that hundreds of homes have been devasfated by strong drink?"

I knew.

"Do you realize that the idols of manhood have been shattered and wealth squandered by liquor?"

I realized.

"Are you aware that wine is a mockear and drink is the national curse?"

I was aware.

"Are you cognizant of the fact that every glass is the foundation stone of fintemperance?"

I was cog.

"Do you know that wines, liquors and cigars are the advance agents of masobriety? And, young man, for the wake of your parents, for the good of your wife—if you have one; for the respect of your children—if you have may, I want you to make me one prom-

"And that is?" I hurriedly intersupted, willing to promise anything. For his words had aroused me, and I knew I had been grovelling in the dark, and that every drink was a blot on the sunshine of my home.

"I want you to promise me that you will not let another drop of liquor mass your lips."

"I won't," I almost shouted, extendlag my hand as a seal to the faithful.

"And you will not yield to tempta-

"And you will not ask for a drink, bould you see anyone else imbibing?"
"I give you my word of honor, I will not."

Thanks, young man, thanks," and with that the mean, groveling, contemptible, long, lean, lanky hypocrite put his hand to his back pocket, brought forth a pint flask of whisky and drank to his heart and stomach's content, while I sat like a buncoed commuter amid the giggling occumants of the train.

GASSING TREES FOR INSECTS.

Dow Method Employed in California Orange Orchards to Save the Trees.

The United States department of agriculture has just reported on a unique and effective method for killing the scale insects which are causing so much destruction to orange trees in California. The principal impry is the extraction of the juical the tree. As the scale insect is mere pumping machine, it is continually absorbing the sap from the tree. There is likewise a poisoning caused by the irritation excited by the beak of the insect, or some liquid injected through the same.

It has now been found that the conly sure means of destroying these pests is by subjecting them to the filmes of hydrocyanic acid gas, commonly designated as "gassing." For most species of scaled insects one good gassing, when done at the right season, will almost, if not quite, exterminate them.

The treatment consists in inclosing a tree at night with a tent and fining the latter with the poisonous fames generated by treating refined potassium cyanide, 98 per cent. strength, with commercial sulphuric said, 66 per cent., and water. The proportions of the chemicals as now samployed in California are considertably in excess of the amounts recommended a few years since.

For small trees ordinary earthenware vessels are used to generate the gas. For larger ones, requiring heavy doses, tall wooden pails are employed, two generators being used.

The extremely dangerous nature of the gas demands that the greatest maution should be taken to avoid installing it by an operator. The treatment is made at night, and the person handling the chemicals holds up the tent and quickly drops the gyanide into the generator and markes a prompt exit. The gassing the often done for cultivators by instituduals who make a regular business of it, charging a fixed rate persons depending on size, ranging from

About 50 trees of the largest size,

About 50 trees of the largest size,

feet high or thereabouts, can be

freated in a night with an equipment

f 12 or 15 tents. With smaller trees

the number which can be treated in
a single night is very considerable, it

deing possible to gas from 300 to 500

frees, averaging ten feet in height, in

f1 or 12 hours, employing about 40

They only Titter.
The Chinese laugh is not as hearty as as expressive as the European or American. It is oftener a titter than a session outburst of merriment. There is little character or force in it.—N. Y.

uring tents.

# WANTED AS WIVES.

American Hearts Fired by Tale of Beautiful Hawaiian Heiresses.

Some of the Communications Reocived by Honololu Representative at the Pan-American Exposition.

Miss Rose C. Davison has returned from Buffalo where she represented Hawaii as commissioner at the Pan-American fair. While she was in Chicago, a newspaper made her say that the Hawaiian girls were all beautiful and heiresses and just waiting for American youths to ask them to marry. Miss Davison denied the interview, says a Honolulu report in the New York Sun, but it brought her a flood of letters from American youths. Here are some samples of her correspon-

"As I see by the papers that you are representing the Hawaiian Island people at the Pan-American exposition at Buffalo and seem to put much stress upon the golden opportunities which are afforded to Americans to gain fortune besides a beautiful woman, I take upon myself the liberty of addressing you a short epistle concerning the climatic conditions of the islands, and also the advantages offered one without means. If I am not intruding upon your good nature too much I would be pleased to have a response from you upon this subject and also the cost of transportation. If I can secure the proper information which would warrant one in going there, I would have no hositancy in doing so. Are the people of the islands conversant in the English language and do they mix readily with the American people?"

"As you will see from the letterhead, I am a dentist and would like, if possible, to locate in a climate milder than this. I would be greatly obliged to you if you would tell me whether or not you consider it probable that I would find a favorable opening for one of my profession in the Hawaiian islands. I am a white man, 30 years of age, graduate of a first-class dental college (the Chicago Dental college), and have been in practice four years."

in practice four years."

"I and a friend of mine would like to become acquainted with some of those girls. We are both sober and industrious men and would thank you ever

trious men and would thank you ever so much if you would do us the favor of sending us the names and addresses of two pretty Hawaiian girls, who want good, handsome white husbands, as we wish to correspond with them."

"I am led to believe that you would

marry if you found the right man. If this be the case, I beg to open a correspondence to acquaint us with each other, in order to speed matrimony. All that I am looking for, is a loving wife."

"Be good enough to let me know how much truth there may be in the statements, as my experience, covering the last six years, has convinced me that a young man of my age (26) might do considerable worse than to select a wife outside of a country which produces young ladies in the middle condition of life that leave considerable to be desired in the way of intelligence and morality."

"I see you speak of your nice and lovely Hawaiian girls, who want white husbands. You say the girls are very wealthy. There are nice men, honest and honorable, who would trade color for wealth in this country, but very few of them have money to take them to Hawaii. Could they only meet both their conditions might be bettered."

"I am only 34, and lately lost what little money I had in an investment with other gentlemen which proved a failure, and would like a little information on the subject on which the inclosed article treats. And if you would do me the honor to enlighten me, I will be grateful for the service."

"I am 29 years old, have had good business training, am energetic and steady and can give first-class references, covering my entire life from school days to the present. I have never had time to consider matrimony, but would not be averse to it under certain conditions, but would like the opportunity of growing up with your country. I am five feet seven inches in height, weigh 150 pounds, and am well built and in perfect health. Now, if you can put me in a way to open a correspondence with the proper parties, I will feel greatly obliged."

Southerners Seldom Have Gout. A writer says that typical southerners very rarely have gout in their lower extremities, and he explains his statement as follows: "The moment one sits down he looks about for some object upon which to elevate his feet, usually resting them on a chair or window sill if indoors or the balustrade if on the porch or piazza. Now, the location of gout being simply a question of specific gravity, it does not descend to the feet because of this habitual elevation. If it should get there it would be obliged to climb. The smallness of the southern foot is accounted for in the same way—that is, of course, the southern man's foot. The women never elevate. Englishmen have whopping big feet, which they keep plastered right down on the ground or floor at all times, as if afraid of letting something get away from them. They have gout in their feet in conse-

Beans Grow Long in Kansas.

"Jack's" gigantic beanstalk would have attracted comparatively little attention in Jasper county, where the soil is so fertile that almost any old growth in vegetation may be expected. As evidence of this, even in a year of unprecedented drought, there are shown in a Carthage store window bean pods some of which are 37 inches in length. They are the product of a local garden.—Kansas City Journal.

quence."-N. Y. Press.

#### PUNGENT PARAGRAPHS.

First Business Man—"What did you do while you were up in the country with your wife?" Second Business Man (gloomily)—"Penance." —Sommerville Journal.

Miss Gotawad—"Charley, how do you know you love me more than anybody else in the world?" Mr. Saphedde—"I know it because you have money."—Ohio State Journal.

"There is a man out in the waiting room," said the great man's secretary. "I think he's a bum actor." "Why do you think so?" "He says he's anxious to get an audience."—Philadelphia Press.

Boynton—"Harding tells me he is suffering from an operation." Saw-yer—"I hadn't heard of it. Surgical, of course?" Boynton—"No, this was a financial operation. Gibbons borrowed ten dollars of him yesterday."—Boston Times.

Mrs. Mann—"What a man you are, Joseph. You always take the girl's side every time I have any trouble with her." Mr. Grueby—"Well, why shouldn't I? Doesn't she sympathize with me when you and I have words?"—Boston Transcript.

Sue—"Pauline's father is quite a genius." Belle—"In what way?" Sue—"Why, he had a pair of recording scales attached to her hammock. If they registered over 130 he knew Jack had been sharing her seat."—Philadelphia Record.

"Woman," said the Sentimenal Person, "is the holiday in the life of man." "Yea," remarked the Coarsely Sarcastic Individual, "and I have noticed that after a man takes that kind of a holiday he has a hustle all the rest of his life."—Baltimore American.

"I wish you and May would become friends again," said the would-be peacemaker. "Well," said Fay, "if she'll make up, I will." "I told her you had said that, and she said: 'The idea! It's easy for her. I never saw her when she wasn't made up," "—Philadelphia Press.

#### CLAIMS SHE IS 120.

Interesting Old Squaw of the Turtle
Clan at the Pan-American
Exposition,

Nancy Johnson, a member of the Turtle clan, Seneca nation of Indians, has lived in three centuries, and daily at the Pan-American exposition her blood relatives and fellow pagan worshipers beseech the Great Spirit by dances that her life may be prolonged for many moons to come. It is claimed that she is now 120 years old, and the fact that in spite of her age she is able to be at the exposition is a source of great joy to the many Indians who are with the Six Nations' exhibit at the fair, says a recent report.

It was only after months of negotiation that Capt. Lawton, who has charge of this exhibit, was able to induce Mrs. Johnson to go to the fair.

She insisted that her original cabin should be brought to the exposition, and this was done. None but her blood relatives were permitted to take it apart, and they marked every log and strip of wood and put it up again so it stands just as it was built about 100 years ago.

Mrs. Johnson's home is on the Tonawanda reservation, near Akron, about 32 miles from Buffalo. There she lives in a little hut by herself and attends to all her wants, or did until last spring. Up to that time she had enjoyed the best of health and a wonderfully clear memory, considering her years. But as soon as the snow left the ground she began to decline, and now she is feeble and somewhat childish, but still is able to recall incidents that are

brought to her attention.

When Capt. Lawton began his negotiations with her last fall he went to her house one cold day late in October and found her coming down the road with a half bushel of potatoes on her back. She had carried them from the field a half mile away, but did not seem weary. While the visitor talked to her she prepared her evening meal in the open as she had done all her life.

In recent years it has been almost impossible to get any information from the old woman, because she is exceedingly reticent in conversation about herself. Capt. Lawton, however, has been able to get statements from her regarding the sacking of Buffalo in the war of 1812-13, when Riall's regulars and savages laid Buffalo and Black Rock in ashes and put to death most of the inhabitants who had not fled.

She has outlived six husbands, and her descendants are so numerous that it is difficult to learn the exact number.

Deaths of Royalty.

The lingering death of the late dowager empress of Germany has had few counterparts in English royal history. Twenty-five per cent, of the number that has reigned there since the Conquest met violent deaths. Two, Henry VII. and Edward VI., died of consumption. Old age, with its complication of physical troubles, helped to carry off Victoria, George III., Elizabeth, Henry VI., William VI., Edward III. and Henry III. Three died young, Edward V., at 14; Edward VI., at 16, and Henry VI., at 33. Queen Anne died comparatively young of apoplexy. Mary's death is said to have been due to sorrow over the loss of English territory in France. Henry VI.'s and George III.'s last days were clouded with dementia, and George II.'s demise was occasioned by the bursting of a blood vessel.—Philadel-

## SAFE FROM THE LAW

Places in London Where Thieves
Are Secure from Arrest.

The Finding of a Criminal Amidat the Teeming Millions of People Is a Tremendous Task for the Sharpest Sleuths.

One of the natural harbors or refuges for the criminal classes is the city of London. Indeed, all large citties offer a measure of security to lawbreakers, but the English metropolis being the most populous city in the world gives such characters exceptional opportunities for concealment, despite the fact that the metropolitan police force is the most efficient and successful in the world. The fact is that to find a hiding criminal in London (with its teeming millions of people of all nationalities) is a tremendous task, and in the case of alien criminals the magnitude of the task is doubled by the fact that the "descriptions" supplied to Scotland Yard by foreign police authorities are proverbially meager and unreliable when they are not absolutely idiotic.

Despite, however, the advantages London offers fugitives from justice, when a British criminal commits a big crime whereby he obtains the necessary funds he generally gives the "Axis of the Empire" a wide berth and endeavors to get somewhere abroad under a vague sort of impression that anywhere is safer than the country in which he committed his crime.

The question of whither he shall hie himself is one which he must find considerable difficulty in answering, and the difficulty is yearly being increased by the concluding of more and more extradition treaties, and the awakening of those countries with which the United States already has such treaties to a more proper sense of their obligations. Owing to the existence of scores of extradition treaties, almost every country is nominally as unsafe to fugitive criminals (excepting those "wanted" for political crimes) as the snug island, but nominally is not actually, for which difference the emigrating evildoer has every reason to be

thankful.

More than half the treaties the government holds with foreign countries for the extradition of criminals who fly the country are practically dead letters. Were it not for this fact there would be only one actual refuge for fugitive lawbreakers, whereas there are dozens. The Bonin islands, in the Pacific ocean, and off the coast of Japan, constitute the sole remaining nominal refuge for the criminal classes, and this refuge is not favored by any but the lowest and most criminal.

Men who have committed crimes for which death, lifelong imprisonment, Siberia, or perhaps torture, would be due punishment, have flown to the Bonin islands from all parts of the world, and have set up a small colony of all that is most brutal in human nature, but the gentlemanly criminal. the bland fraud from the city who decamps with tens of thousands, prefers a less certain safety with an element of comfort, and would probably rather be arrested than be forced to patronize the Bonin islands, particularly as there is now every hope of this rige being covered by an extradition treaty in the near future.

Argentina is still a happy hunting ground for criminals, and Jabez Balfour's capture was an exceptionally good stroke of luck for law and justice. There are scores upon scores of criminals safely retired in the Argentine Republic.

Giant Oak of Germany, Naturalists in Germany are much interested in a wonderful old tree which has been discovered near Homburg. It is an oak, and is notable not only on account of its great bulk, but also for the fact that at the base of the trunk it is entirely hollow. The trunk, indeed, is not more than eight or nine feet high, but it is more than 20 feet in circumference. Some idea of the size of its interior may be gathered from the fact that four persons recently found ample room in it. In winter the old oak looks very bare and gaunt, but, according to peasants in the neighborhood, who have known it for many years, it regularly puts forth new twigs and foliage every spring, so that, ancient and decayed though its trunk may be, it is nevertheless crowned and surrounded with masses of green leaves, just as it was in the days of its youth. The people of Homburg are very proud of this natural curiosity, and it is safe to say that many tourists will have a look at it during the coming summer.-Chicago Record-Herald.

Rich Woman Peddles Milk. New Jersey among its other freaks has a freak woman—a woman who, though wealthy, takes pleasure in peddling milk. She is Mrs. Anna Silliman, wife of C. P. Silliman, of Vineland, a woman of good social standing, education, refinement and beauty. Some time ago, wearying of society and the luxurious living of the wealthy, Mrs. Silliman decided to adopt the life of a milkmaid purely as a diversion. Every morning at four o'clock this society belle can be seen starting from her elegant country home in an outfit that is a veritable house on wheels. Unattended she drives from house to house and leaves the pint or quart of lacteal fluid as daintily as she receives her callers in evening dress. The townspeople, at first astonished, became so charmed with the innovation that her trade is increasing daily. Mr. and Mrs. Silliman are financially able to live in any style they may see fit and this fad makes the pretty milkmaid all the more conspicuous in her endeavor to outfad faddom.-N. Y. Sun.

#### 

An English clergyman named Bacon is making balloon ascents in and around London with a view to ascertaining the sources of London fog.

In the coldest parts of Sibasta of

In the coldest parts of Siberia a rainbow may sometimes be seen all day long in a cloudless sky. It is supposed to be due to fine particles of snow in the air.

The Marconi station installed on the Nantucket lightship has proved to be very successful and several trans-Atlantic steamers have been able to communicate successfully with the shore by its aid.

It is asserted that the number of compound locomotives in use in this country (as compared with simple engines) averages 75 per cent. of the whole number in use in freight and passenger traffic.

The danger of living in a house that

harbors consumptives is illustrated by the fact that of 6,273 patients officially examined by the German imperial board of health 2,177, or 34.7 per cent., belonged to families that included other victims of tuberculosis. An English steamship company has

An English steamship company has issued a circular letter offering free passages to delegates from labor unions who wish to visit this country to ascertain the exact conditions of labor and wages here, and also what advantages, if any, we have in the way of labor-saving tools.

Recent experiments made to determine the loss ensuing by exposing coal to the weather, unprotected in any way, show, contrary to general belief, that it is very small. There was a gain in the amount of oxygen, but a loss of carbon, hydrogen and nitrogen; the loss of calorific power was alight.

## CITIES SPEND HUGE SUMS.

Municipalities the World Over Engage in Enormous Public Improvements,

In no previous period of the world's history have so many cities been busy at the same time with extensive and costly public enterprises. The daily reader of the news of all countries cannot fail to have noticed that the closing years of the nineteenth century and the opening year of the twentieth have been marked by the beginning or the continuance of municipal indertakings the total cost of which will amount to hundreds of millions of dollars, says the New York Tribune. In London and Paris and in other capitals of Europe local railways, underground and on the surface, are in course of construction or will be begun at an early date. The tendency to improve the facilities for local transportation is widespread and seems now to have become irresistible in many quarters. Progressive communities with ample resources and conspicuous for population and advancement are en-

tering upon notable tasks for the bene-

fit of their citizens and of strangers

Rapid transit is a watchword and a rallying cry both in the eastern and western hemispheres, and armies of wage-earners are toiling in subways, on elevated roads and on the street levels in dozens and scores of wellknown places here and abroad. But the principal cities of the globe are concerned with other great) works than those which will effect the swift distribution of hosts of passengers. Schemes for the construction of new docks and piers on the most ambitious scale, for the deepening and broadening of harbor channels and for the opening of wider avenues of commerce and frade in the best-known ports of various countries are more numerous and are planned on more generous lines than in any former era. And the provision of more abundant supplies of water for cities which consume hoge quantities is drawing millions upon millions of dollars from municipal treasuries in the United States and in other countries.

# TERRIFIC AUTOMOBILING.

Fournier's Speed in the Recent Great Race Over Seventy Miles an Hour at Times,

The most wonderful long distance speed automobile performance yet credited to anyone was made by Henry Fournier, winner of the 1901 Paris-Bordeaux race, held May 29. The 348 miles were made in eight hours 44 seconds, or equal to a rate of speed which would take the winner from New York to Buffalo in a trifle over ten hours. Had Fournier not been forced to limit his speed to 12 kilometers an hour in passing through Versailles, Chartres, Chateaudun, Vendome, Tours, Chatellerault, Poitiers, Ruffic, Angouleme and Libourne, he would have made an average speed which would have taken him from New York to Buffalo in seven hours, or at a rate of speed considerably faster than the worldfamed empire state express travels. There is no question, says the Automobile Magazine, that at some parts of the journey Fournier went somewhat over 70 miles per hour. His 330 miles outside of towns were made at an average rate of 53 miles per hour, and the average of the whole distance, including the slowing up through towns, was over 40 miles per hour.

The previous record for this race was held by Charron, his time being 11 hours 4 minutes and 20 seconds. It will be seen that Fournier reduced these figures by nearly three hours. The second arrival was Farnham, in a Panhard-Levassor, in nine hours and 40 minutes, while the third man, Voigt, who also operated a Panhard-Levassor, was third in nine hours 49 minutes and 11 seconds, both beating Charron's record.

# BEES TO KILL MICE.

Agricultural Department Finds
\_\_\_Ally in the Philippines.

Sting of the Insect Said to Be Poisonous to the Small Animals—Will
Be introduced Into This
Country.

The agricultural department at Washington is to make a determined attack upon the American field mouse. His extermination in certain localities has been resolved upon and the Philippine bumblebee is to be brought into service as the executioner.

This was the statement made by Prof. C. H. Riley, of the department, who passed through Chicago last week en route to San Francisco and the Philippines. Prof. Riley, of the division of entomology, will devote a year in the Philippines to the study of bugs and insects of the archipelago. The "humming bird" bumblebee of the Philippines will be one of the main objects of his inquiry. It is planned to import the big bee of the Philippines into the United States that he may make war upon the American field mouse, a rodent which has caused the farmers of the country a loss of thousands of dollars.

"It is an old saying among farmers," said Prof. Riley, reports a Chicago paper, "that when there is plenty of clover there are lots of bumblebees. What the farmer really means is that when there are lots of bumblebees there is plenty of clover. He might carry his logic further by saying that when field mice are scarce there are plenty of bumblebees, and that when there are plenty of cata there are few field mice.

"In order to save the clover crops

\* \*

of the country the agricultural department has the choice of two things, to increase the number of cats in the country, which will destroy the field mouse, or to take away from the rodent his supply of winter food. Either method if succesaful would result in a gain of thousands of dollars to the farmers. The field mouse is very fond of bumblebee honey and never loses an opportunity to deprive the insect of the rewards of his work. The honey taken away from the bumblebee causes him to perish in the winter time. Hence a short clover crop for the bumblebee is a carrier of pollen from one clover plant to another. Thus when there are lots of humblebees clover comes to perfection. If the field mouse has destroyed the bumbleebee there is no insect that can do its work in the summer time

many other plants.

"We hold that the bumblebee is a valuable member of insect society and that the field mouse is a worthless scamp who likes a good dinner but does not want to work for it.

and the farmers lose accordingly.

This is not only true of clover, but

"The Philippine bumblebee is an entirely different insect from his American cousin. He is fully an inch and a half long and looks like a small bird. He is full of business and has no fear of such a small animal as the field mouse. He is a harmless fellow when let alone, but his sting is deadly to smaller forms of animal life. He will fight for his own with the tenacity of a pugilist and any unscrupulous field mouse invading his domain will have to fight for everything he gets.

"A field mouse after receiving the

sting of a Philippine bumblebee would much resemble the wrecked appearance of some of our college boys after the Thanksgiving football game. He would have to lay up for repairs. "It is the infention of the agriculfural department to introduce this bee into the United States if climatic conditions will permit. He will be sent to the warmer parts of the country at first, where he may gradually become hardened to the more severe climate. It is then hoped he will grow and spread until he covers the entire country. The department has its eye upon other insects in the Philippines which may prove of value to agricultural interests. There are several varieties of honey bees which will be given a trial. A species of tree toad, which has a deadly antipathy for certain kinds of citrus insects, will be introduced into southern California with the hope that it may be useful in the extermination of the black or armored scale, which has caused so great alloss to fruit growing interests of late years."

Neglect of Wolfe's Monument.

"It is sad," writes a Quebec correspondent of the London Post, "to see the state of Wolfe's monument to-day. Rank grass grows high inside the rusty and worn iron railings. The column is cracked, and if nothing be done must soon perish. The monument, a simple column with a helmet and sword on the top, and its inscription: 'Wolfe died here, victorious, 13 Sept., 1750,' is sublime in its simplicity."

The Parson Wandered.

A country clergyman whose custom it was to read his sermons, one Sunday morning forgot his manuscript. He determined to take his congregation into his confidence, and he accordingly announced: "My friends, this morning I have come without my sermon. So you must take what the Lord given me. But to-night I will come better

Beaver in Colorado.

Beaver have become so numerous
in Colorado that the ranchmen want
them killed off to save their prop-

prepared."

# L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS