DOOM OF MIGHTY LONDON.

About the Only Agent Which Can Cause its Destruction.

What hints of German invasion and all an approaching earthquake, the milion "What will be the doom of Hendon!" seems a not unreasonable What will be the end of the what will bring about The ruin over which Macaulay's New Madander is to cast his moralizing we? Several answers may be given. m destruction of London at the hands of a victorious invader is posmay be besiefed, even bombardshe cannot be destroyed. Flood? This again may be dismissed as most Suprobable; and one calamity only remains to be considered, namely-fre. Mes. Leadon has self-sed more than s the city was practically wined met. Every one knows this; but it is and every one, who knows that the great confingration was predicted 15 years before by Lilly, the astrologer, and by another astrologer, Nostradamen, a contary before that. Nestradames east his prediction in a French quatrain, the gist of which was that In 1666 London would be visited by a configuration which would destroy St. That's and 89 other churches,--Casmile Saturday Journal.

> TRUE TO HIS PROMISE. By Their Own Testimony, Doctor Had Rejevenated Patients.

A German doctor who claimed to Rame discovered the secret of restor-Mag youth, advertised in London that the could in two days, reignemate the mount decrepit hag. This brought a ward of ancient dames to his house. the first interview be invited each putient to write her surname, Chrismame and age on a piece of paper. The ages whereto they pleaded guilty muried, but all ruled high. The doctor tundertook to give each patient the promised elixir next day. On the apmediated day the doctor regretted that me sufortunately had mishaid the pager containing his youth seekers' muss, and he, therefore, requested mach one to write it down and call In writing down her age the smeand time each woman took many means of the age she previously had estatited. The doctor, pretending to have found the first papers, called them to witness, comparing the lists, . That he had kept his word, inasmuch the ta 48 hours they had all become my years younger. a diam

How He Got a Drink. An Indiana traveling man told a salary the other day of an incident on the road. He was in the smoking car and an express train reading his paper when a man rushed in from the car limited the smoker, evidently in great fintion and said: "Has anybody in This car any whisky? A women in The car behind has fainted!" instant-By dozens of flasks were produced. The man who had asked for it picked and the largest one, drew the cork send put the bottle to his lips. With a long, satisfied sigh he handed the That did me a lot of good, and I needed it, for M niways makes me feel queer to see m women faint away!"

Happiness. Happiness in this world, when it mannes, comes incidentally. Make it the object of pursuit, and it leads us m wild goose chase, and is never attwined. Follow some other object, and wary possibly we may find that we have caught happiness without dreaming of it, but likely enough it is gone the moment we say to ourselves, "Here it is!" like the chest of gold that treasure-seekers find. . . . There as something more awful in happiness than in sorrow-the latter being earthwand finite, the former composed of the substance and texture of sternity that spirits still embodied may well tramble at it.—Nathaniel Hawthorne.

Real Hard Cider. John Fair, a highly respected citizen Montgomeryville, Armstrong counmy, has at his home a small keg conmining several quarts of cider which was made by himself 51 years ago, mays the Philadelphia Record. Altegether there were several kees of the Miguid, but now only a few quarts remain, and Mr. Pair is guarding that implously. The eider is so old that it Thes turned black in tolor, and so strong that less than a teaspoonful will put a driaker in the Happy Land.

- An Explanation.

"Fat men are invariably honest," said the deep thinker, "and I believe M's because they are so sensitive mhout their fat." "I don't see what you mean?" "Well, if they should be Mishonest, and get caught at it they might have to wear convict suits with the stripes running in the most unmening becoming way."

Faulty Statistics. "The department of agriculture has fluored out," he read from the paper, "that rats cost the people of this coun-Bry \$189,000,000 a year." "John Henmy," replied his wife, "I don't believe a word of it. Why, mine only cost 35 cents, some women make their own, and some wear their hair flat. Flub, can't tell me."

Foxy Albert.

Grandmother (to Httle urchin)-"Come bere, Albert, and tell this lady hew you sained the prize for read-Albert-"Oh, quite easy, It was George Roussin who got it; but, es coming home, we two had a game Tracked marbles and be lost"

AFFECTION OF THE NERVES.

Stammering Not Always Due to Defects in Vocal Organs.

"Stammering is often more the result of habit than from any defect of the vocal organs," says Prof. B. L. Pavyer. "It is generally, if not always, caused by a spasm of the larnys, resulting from nervous contraction of the organs, thus refusing to prmit a proper flow of the air current producing tone. People rarely or never stammer when singing, for then the attention is divided between the words and music, the nervousness is momentarily forgotten and the passage of the air current through the larnyx is continuous and unobstructed. Stammering very often is the regult of imitation, sometimes intentional, sometimes unconscious, and the affliction is much more general than might be supposed. In one comparatively small section of the city there are 35 stammerous, and every one of them is able to demonstrate to his own satisfaction not only that he does not stammer very badly, but that some ether person he knows stammers a great deal worse than himself. Every stammerer is intensely sensitive about his infirmity, rarely forgives and mover does forget any allusion to it which in his mind savors of ridicule.—St. Louis Globe-Demo-

HAD TO GO ON IN AUTO. Machine Wouldn't Stop and Owner

Tried to Wear It Out. John P. Julius, a prominent piano dealer, of York, Pa., and an enthusiastic automobilist, engaged with his electric auto in an endurance run, which he will not soon forget. While driving along through the city streets something went wrong with the mechanism of his car and he found that he was unable to stop it. Though moving at a lively clip the car's pace was within the speed limit, and Mr. Julius, with great presence of mind. steered it on, meanwhile giving his spare attention to a search for the trouble. This search he finally abandoned, and then began the endurance run, which continued up hill and down through the streets and over country roads for several hours. The machine continued to bowl merrily on, and Mr. Julius was in despair, when he passed a garage and managed to attract the attention of a mechanic, who jumped aboard and by removing a few plugs brought up the runaway.

Not Equal to Luxuries. A dapper young man took a seat on a bench in Madison Square Park, says the New York Press. Sunning himself at the other end of the beach was as fine a specimen of the genus hobo as ever disfigured a landscape. After seating himself the dapper young man drew a handsome silver case from his pocket and extracted therefrom a cigarette. With the cigarette between his teeth, he drew out a silver matchbox, to find it empty. Snapping down the lid, he turned to the tramp, heattated, then said: "I beg pawdon, my friend, but do you happen to have a match?" Hands plunged into his trousers! pockets and legs sprawled out before him, the tramp surveyed his neighbor with an air of deep melancholy. "Say," he muttered hoarsely, "who do you think I am-J. Pierpont Morgan ?"

False Signal. "You don't believe in romance, eh?" said the old boarder. "You bet your tintype I don't," sighed the young man with the bandage around his head. "I had my share." "How was that?" "Well, you see I was forbidden to call on my best girl and every night she would sit out on the balcony and at a certain hour strike a match. That would be the signal for me to stick my head through the vines and kiss her." "Ah, very poetic." "Yes, but the other night I saw the match flare up, stuck my head through the vines and got the worst thrashing I ever received. You see, the old man happened to be out there lighting his pipe."

Apples Preserved in Ice. J. C. Braunbock, of Wallis Run. Lycoming county, Pennsylvania, adopted a unique method of preserving his apples last fall. He built a bin in the orchard seven feet wide, 14 feet long and three feet high. In the bottom of this he put straw, then filled it with apples, putting straw on the sides and ends. Then he placed straw and cornstalks on top. He dug a ditch around it to keep the water from standing there. Some water, however, found its way through the top and formed ice about each of the apples, but they were not disturbed until the ice had all melted. The apples were sound, crisp and without a wrinkle.

. A Substitute.

Being very close-fisted Mason had never allowed himself the costly habit of smeking. He always felt himself a loser when anyone treated to cigars. But on one occasion, when the party he was with entered a stationery and cigar store, he made up his mind to have his share of the treat. "Won't you smoke this time?" asked the leader. "No, thank-you," replied Mason; "but if you don't mind, I believe I'll take a pencil."—Harper's Weekly.

It's the Brogue.

uwhy do we call a handcuff a bracelet?" asked the commissioner of an Irish recruit at a recent police examination. "Faith, behase it is intended for arrist," replied the applicant. And he got the position at ORCE. THE

RISES WITH A COMPLAINT.

Alkali Eye Displeased with Vaudeville

Performance. We went up to Houston ter meet with th' lumbermen, not thet we air a lumberman at all, but we air more er less interested in th' plan o' makin' boose i'm sawdust, an' it was up to us to be astin' these ducks whut they air a-doin' at present with their output; of they ain't drinkin' it up we'd like ter make them a proposition lookin' ter th' startin' of a distillery. Ef sech a distillery is started we kin guarantee ter dispose of th' output. Whilst we was in Houston we wus th' guessed, th' honored guessed, of th' Majestic th'ater, an' we have ben sufferin' i'm nervous prostration ever since; a duck who done a chair balancin' act used bottles o' beer ter baiance on and his feet was th' most thrillin' one we ever seen; he was libie ter fall at any minute an' we'd like to ast what'd become o' thet beer of he had fell? He'd a-busted them bottles as sure as shootin'; we was so nervous at th' bare thought o' sech a accident that we ain't got over shudderin' yet. Later. - Since writing' th' above we her learned that them beer bottles wus empty, an' that fact makes it even more agervatin'.-Alkali Eye, in the Houston Pest.

FATHER HAD HOPES FOR HIM.

Bumptuous Youth Got Benefit of a Little Plain Talk.

The following is related of a certain Well-known New York business man and his son: The son had just left Harvard and was fired with ambitions which did not include going into his father's office. When he arrived home his parents began seriously to discuss his future. He stated what his ideas were and spoke of the professions as most likely to afford scope for his genius. The law, he thought, would be the likeliest career. His father, however, had not a very high opinion of his abilities, and said so without mincing words. "I think," he declared, "you had better make a beginning by adorning one of my office stools. We can think about your taking up the law afterward." The young man did not see it that way. Office life he loathed, and said it was an existence fit only for a dog. "Well, my son," returned the father, dryly, "you're not a dog yet, but you'll grow."

With a Provise. "When universal peace is finally established." said Alfred H. Love, the president of the Universal Peace union, in an interview in Philadelphia, "then many a men who now ridicules the peace movement will claim to have been its lifelong champion. It is always so. We thump and kick a poor, weak, struggling movement at its inception, and when it has succeeded and no longer needs our help. we give it the most solicitous support. There was once a young lady whose betrothed, a very poor young man, was about to set out for South America to seek his fortune in the rubber trade. As he took his leave of her the night before his departure, he said. tremulously: 'And you swear to be true to me, Irene?" 'Yes, Heber,' cried the girl; 'yes-if you're successful.'"

Dog Jealousy.

There is a strong trait of jealousy in a dog's nature. A story is told of a Birmingham dog that had been a great pet in the family until the baby came. There was suspicion that he was jealous, but he could not be detected in any disrespect to the newcomer. It always happened, however, that when the dog was left alone with the baby the baby began to cry. No signs of trouble were ever to be seenupon entering the room, and the dog was always found sleeping peacefully before the fire. Finally one day a peep through the keyhole disclosed the canine rubbing his cold wet nose up and down the baby's back.-Outing Magazine.

Pen Economy. The merchant before filling his inkwell dropped in two or three old pens and poured the writing fluid upon them. "Thus," he said, "I practice pen economy, prolonging three or four times the life of all my pens. You see, the corrosive power of the ink, which is immensely strong, vents itself on the old pens kept in the well and has little or no strength left wherewith to attack the pen I have in use. Try this scheme, young man, and you will find that your pens will practically never wear out."

\* He Left the House. While a lady was feeding a hungry tramp the other day she discovered he was pecketing her silver spoons. Opening the door, she exclaimed, "Drop those spoons, you accound rel, and leave the house!" "But, madam-" "Leave the house, I say!" screamed the infuristed woman. "Leave the house!" go, madam," said the tramp, as he reached the front gate, "never to return; but before I go I would like to say that I did not intend to take your house."--Illustrated Bits.

Yes, But Will She?

Wedderly-"Can the girl you are engaged to swim?" Singleton-"I don't know. But why do you ask?" Wedderly-"Because, if she can, you ought to be happy. A girl who can swim can keep her mouth shut."-Stray Stories.

The Old Question. "Say, if you put all your money into building a house?" "Yes?" "And an earthquake came along and shook the House down?" "Yes?" "Wouldn't Visions Conjured Up in Torture Room of Ancient Tyrant.

The horror of horrors in all Italy is found at Padua, known as the torture rooms of that demonical monster of cruelty. Ecelino, a thirtenth century ruler of Verona, Padua, Vicenza and Brescia. His cruelties finally became so intolerable that the church proclaimed a crusade against him. The peasantry rose and a farmer killed the brute with a scythe. I was shown an upright box in which was the skeleton of a victim. Two apertures enabled the condemned to see a table, just out of reach, crowded with food and drink. To-day, it is stage food and the wine is colored water, but the realism is intense. The climax of shudders was reached when I came to a block in the center of a small square room. Nailed to the chopping block, severed midway between the wrist and elbow, lay the dainty hand of a woman, just as it had been chopped from the living arm! The instant my eyes saw this sight the cell seemed to resound with the shrieks of the terrified woman, and, although the hand I gased upon was of wax, the mental shock produced was dreadful beyond conception. -Brooklyn Bagle.

ARE LOFTIEST OF MINES.

Worked by Incas and Now to Be Opened by New Company.

It is thought that the old Caylloma silver mines in Peru are probably sitnated at a greater elevation than any other considerable mines in the world. Their altitude varies between 14,000 and 17.000 feet. They were worked by the Spaniards in the sixteenth century, and before that, it is believed, by the Incas. As English company is now preparing a hydro-electric plant for them. This plant will be situated at an altitude of between 15,000 and 16,-000 feet. It will derive its power from a waterfall on the Santiago river, and in a dry season from Lake Huaillacho. one of the sources of the Amazon. The power will be transmitted by cable about three miles. At the highest mines the pressure of the atmosphere is only eight and one-half pounds a square inch, and water boils 24 degrees below the ordinary boiling point. -Youth's Companion.

One Step at a Time. It is wonderful how much practical wisdom about the smallest perplexities of daily life comes to men who keep both their feet and their wishes still until Providence—the world prefers to call it "circumstances"clears a path for them. No doubt in all our lives there come times when we seem to have been brought into a blind alley, and cannot see where we are to get out; but it is very rare indeed that we do not see one step in advance the duty which lies next us. tent to see but one step at a time, and take it, we shall find our way made plain.-Rev. Alexander Maclaren.

To Setisfy a Grudge. Bir Thomas Lipton, apropos of bachelorhood and marriage, said in an after dinner speech in Chicago: "Bachelors. I admit, are villains, but it is a shame to play such tricks on them as it is customary everywhere to ds. A nasty trick was played on a bachelor friend of mine at a dance. A woman was reproaching him for never having married, when her husband, a little bored, perhaps, said gruffly: "He says he could have cut me out and married you if he had wanted to.' The woman started. 'Indeed!' she cried. 'Why didn't he do it, then? 'He says he owed me a grudge, the husband explained, with a chuckle."

How She Prepared. A French gentleman anxious to find a wife for a penhew went to a matrimonial agent, who handed him his list of lady clients. Running through this he came to his wife's name, entered as desirous of obtaining a husband between the ages of 38 and 35-a blonde preferred. Forgetting his nephew, he hurried home to announce the discovery to his wife. The lady was not at all disturbed. "Oh yes," she said, "that is my name. I put it down when you were so ill in the winter and the doctors said we must prepare for the worzt."

Light-Teed Gentry. "The best pickpockets," said the detective, "are the Hindoos. You have to call them light-toed as well as lightfingered, for they can lift a watch or purse as easily with their feet as with their hands. Trained from childhood, these bare-footed rascals are wonderfully skillful with their toes. This gives them a great advantage. A Hindoo in a crowd will stand with his arms ostentatiously folded and sneak with his foot the wallet from your trousers pocket."

Tragic Nine of Diamonds. Carefully preserved at Stairs castle, the Aberdeenshire seat of the earl of Erroll, is a single playing card which recalls a never to be forgotten tragedy. It is the nine of diamonds (hence called to this day "the curse of Scotland"), on which the duke of Cumberland wrote his order for the butchery of the brave Highlanders who were taken prisoners at the fateful battle of Culloden.

On the Job. Merchant (to applicant for clerkship)—and have you had much experience in this line of business?" Applicant-"Lots of it. Why, I've been in 13 different situations of the kind within the last three years."

GREATEST OF ALL HARVESTS.

John J. Ingalls' Magnificent Eulogy of Grass.

Grass is the forgiveness of nature -her constant benediction. Fields trampled with battle, saturated with blood, torn with the ruts of cannon, grow green again with grass, and caraage is forgotten. Streets abandoned by traffic become grass-grown like rural lanes, and are obliterated. Forests decay, harvests perish, flowers vanish, but grass is immortal. Heleaguered by the seven hosts of winter, it withdraws into the impregnable fortress of its subterranean vitality and emerges upon the first solicitation of spring. Sown by the winds, by the wandering birds, propagated by the subtle horticulture of the elements which are its ministers and servants, it softens the nude outline of the world. Its tenacious fibers hold the earth in its place and prevent its soluble components from washing into the waiting sea. It invades the solitude of deserts, climbe the inaccessible slopes and forbidden pinnacles, of mountains, modifies ellmates and determines the history. character and destiny of nations. Unobtrusive and patient, it has immortal vigor and aggression. Banished from the thoroughfare and the field, it bides its time to return, and when vigilance is relaxed, or the dynasty has perished, it silently resumes the throne from which it has been expelled, but which it never abdicates. It bears no blasonry of bloom to charm the senses with fragrance or splendor, but its homely hue is more enchanting than the illy or the rose. It yields no fruit in earth or air, and yet, should its harvest fall for a single year, famine would depopulate the world.-John J. Ingalls.

A SCHEME OF JOHN'S. Fear of Landlady Greater Than Mis-

Love of Sleep. John was a sleepy-head, so celebrated, indeed, that he had never been known to wake up by what his family called a natural process. So when he went off to college it was only natural that he should be presented with alarm clocks from two of his numer-

"One will be enough, dear," said his mother, but John took them both. He set the siarm of one at the hour of rising and placed it at the head of his bead; the other he set 15 minutes later, and each night placed it at the head of the states outside of his landlady's door. Then he wrote home an account of how it worked.

ous aunts.

As his alarm went off in the morning his first thought was that the clock on the stairs would make itself heard in 15 minutes. This aroused him so fully that he was able to spring out of bed on the instant.

Roses in Legend and History. When the captive Jews in Babylon hung their harps upon the willows, the air was sweet with the fragrance of growing roses; and upon returning to their own land the exiles are said to have carried with them seeds of the flowers which had brightened their captivity. Thus Syria became the home of roses. Even the name of this country is derived, according to some philologists, from "Seri," meaning "a wild rose." In the Sanskrit, the oldest of Tindu myths declares that Vishnu found his wife in the heart of a rose. Since the day of Vishnu, many another has found his wife, if not in the heart of a rose, by means of a rose. "My love I speak in flowers," and the rosebud has been especially intrusted with the lover's message.—From "Legends of the Roses," by Mrs. A. S. Hardy, in the Circle.

Battle with Feroclous Rats.

in a battle with rats, Abraham Hunsberger, of this place, killed 28 which had atacked him, while as many more escaped. When the fight began he struck at one huge gray rat with the hoe; the animal squealed, and in an instant the loft was full of rats, which attacked Hunsberger, grabbing at his legs and tearing his trousers with their sharp-teeth, others jumping on his back and anapping at him.

Hunsberger dropped the hoe, frightened, and endeavored to general of the loft through a trap door. The door had "caught," and, finding he could not get it open, he again grabbed the hoe, and, with part of the handle as a weapon, fought the infuriated little animals.-Lansdale (Pa.) Dispatch to Philadelphia Record.

Pennsylvania's Disappearing Timber. . An idea of the rapidity with which the timber is disappearing from some sections of Pennsylvania can be obtained from the following firmres, which refer to the timber cutting on the Hicks Run tract, in Clearfield county: Original size of tract, 9,000 acres; timber cut the first two years, 3,000 acres; still standing, 6,000 acres; amount of timber cut, 50,000,000 feet: amount standing, 200,000,000 feet; daily capacity of sawmili, 200,000 feet; daily shipments, 15 carloads; amount of timber in Hicks Run yard, 6,090,000 feet; time of operation, two years; estimated time to cut standing timber, four years; number of men employed, 800 to 1,000.

No Answer Required. Tommy-Paw!

Mr. Tucker-What's the trouble now, my son?

Tommy-Why is it that the magagines don't make their readin' matter as interesting as they do their advertising pages?

DISEASES OF THE DECEASED.

Colored Man's Knowledge Might Well Have Puzzled Professor.

Representative John Sharp Wil-Ifams tells of a coroner's inquest in Georgia, wherein the coroner was endeavoring to elicit information from a colored witness named Ben Botts.

"Did you ever hear the deceased complain of any ailment?" was the first question put to Botts.

"De who, sah?" "The deceased."

Botts scratched his head in perplexity, looked thoughtful for a moment, then called into consultation his wife, daughter and son-in-law After much whispering, he faced the coroner again. 'I neber knowed no decease, sah," he replied.

"The deceased means the man lying dead there," explained the cor-

"Oh!" exclaimed Botts. "Ef yo" means de dead man, I begins to understand. By f don't disremember, I did heah dat he had a rattlin' ob de

"Rattling of the brain?" What is that?"

"Well, sah, it ain't exackly a misery ob de stomach, but it ain't fur from it; an' it's jest 'bout as painful as flintin' at de heart, or ketchin' ob de j'ints, or settlin' ob de bones; an' of I makes no mistake, it ain't so powberful fur from ringin' in de years, an', twitchin' ob de skull."-Sunday Maga-

CORNER STONE OF EMPIRE

Horse Has at All Times Been Potent Factor in War.

From the earliest times the borse has been a potent factor in war, and to-day his education is a delicate and serious matter, undertaken at great expense by all the nations of the world. Germany needs a million horses for cavalry and artillery to put her colossal forces in the field; France requires probably three-quarters of a million; and even Great Britain has needed as many as 230,000-tn her serious predicament in South Africa

while she was fighting the Boers. Although England in peace time mounts only two-thirds of her cavalry, her horse bill amounts to about \$400,-. 000 a year-a figure which may be multiplied by four or five for the German army. In most countries omnibus, farm and domestic horses are registered as being available in time of war for miscellaneous service, and for this anything from \$30,000 to \$150,000 a year may be paid by a military na-

tion. France spends upward of \$600,000 a year on horses for her great armies. As a general rule, the recruits are five years old and cost \$200 each.-From "The War Horse at School," by William C. Fitz-Gerald, in the Circle

Deceptive Mirror.

One's reflection in a mirror mever does one justice. Comfortable thought for the plain and pretty alike! Complexion, expression and color are all really better than the shining glass makes them appear. Let not her to whom nature has been sparing of her

.charms despair. If she would see herself in the deceptive mirror as others see her with the eye, or as nearly as possible, let her hasten to a draper's shop and buy a quantity of soft, pure white material -gauze, if possible; if not, Swiss or India muslin will answer very well.

Be sure to have it pure white, and after polishing the surface of the min ror gather the material at the center of the top and bring it down softly at ..... either side, framing the glass in.

Flew Too High at First. The mistakes inexperienced music teachers make in mapping out courses of study for their pupils are almost ineredible. A young girl came to me for lessons recently, says Robert D. Brain, in the Etude, and I found that the course she was studying was as follows: For exercises she had the entire list of Beethoven sonates in two volumes, having already "been through" the first volume; for a solo she had Liszt's Hungarian Rhansodie No. 2. She could not play any of the scales, and had to be put back to easy

studies and a simple walts by Durand.

Home Champagne Popular. The conclusion of the bureau of statistics from the study of the champagne production in the United States is that the quantity of genuine formented-in - the - bottle "champagne" wine produced in this country at present is nearly one-half as great as the importation of wine of the same general class; or, in other words, that about one third of the genuine champagne wine new consumed in this country is of domestic production and the proportion which the home product forms of the total is rapidly increasing.

What a Question!

"I suppose that Bink's lawn will now he worth looking at; he told me to-day he'd just bought a new line of hose."

"And do you suppose how his wife to walk across the law in them?"—Bohemian.

He Used to Be Fig. Biggers—You look 40 parties under weight; have you been and liggers (sarcastically) - I have:

don't I show it? Biggers-You certainly do not you never looked so well in year life be-

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS