### RUINED BY TRIFLES.

Little Things That Changed English Millionaires Into Bengare in a Short Time.

It was a common penny postage stamp that brought Hobart, the great British "iron king," to his ruin. At the time of the Whitworth period, when there was a big crisis in the iron trade, he had agents in all parts of the world, who kept him posted, says the Detroit Free, Press. Sometimes they telegraphed news to him in cipher; but those in England were nearly always instructed to write. At that period his principal agent, who was also his chief partner, was in Sheffield, and wrote him from there, warning him to sell out of all iron Interests for the time, on account of the Whitworth crisis.

Hobart had frequent fits of irritability, and he had been receiving a los of understamped letters of no importance, on which he had to pay double postage. One morning, in anger, he gave orders that such letters werq to be returned to the postmen. The very first understamped letter received after this was from his partner. It was rejected as soon as it arrived.

Consequently, knowing nothing of the existence of the letter, or the allimportant private news it contained, Hobert pledged himself next day for more iron deals than even his mighty credit was good for. The great drop in prices came two days later, and Hobart, once a millionaire, was involved in a hopeless bankruptcy, from which he never recovered.

Geoffry Pack, once the prince of London's stock exchange, was famous fgr being most punctual, never arriving a minute late, although he always walked to the city from Sloane square every day. One morning he tore his trousers on a nail that was sticking out of a fence. That tear ruined him. Instead of going home, he went into the nearest tailor's to get a new pair of trousers. They had none that he could wear, but they mended the tear for him, and were so long about it that he was an hour late. That very amorning was the morning of the terrible Australian slump, which broke 14 firms in almost se many minutees and though Pack could easily have saved himself had he been there to conduct his awairs, the delay at the stailor's carried them beyond hope, and he arrived to find himself a beggar. He committed suicide a week later. The mere motion of a hand ruined

Cobbett & Co., one of the largest and wealthiest engineering firms ever known. They and an American firm tendered bids for the building of the great Kaura bridge for the Russian government. Jacob Cobbett, who was the brain and center of the business. spent six months in the designing and contracting, and had all his plans ready. His bid was accepted and material was bought in enormous quantities, men engaged, engines built and so forth. A time limit had been set both for the commencement and finish, and Cobbett was perfecting his plans and making sure of the smallest details, with all the formulae spread out on the table before him when he stretched out his hand, overturned an ink pot and drowned the most imporstant of the papers in a black sea.

Cobbett had a poor memory. In a fever of anxiety he tried to reconstruct his plans from stray notes. It was Impossible, and he called to the Russian government for more time. This was refused, and Russia repudiated the contract, on the ground of delay. as their agreement allowed. Cobbett could not get his work through in time, and the Yankee firm, who now adwanced a cheaper tender, got the job. The loss drove Cobbett & Co. to bankgruptcy, and the great Kaura bridge In Russia is American-built.

Something similar, but still more romantic, was the moment of forgetfulmess that wrecked the career of the great railway contractor, Purbeck Jones. A millionaire in property and funds, he had undertaken the con-Aract to build the Malwar line in Central India, and staked all he had. Security was necessary, however, and he was bound to deliver by May 9, 1891, a sufficient quantity of negotiable bonds, etc., to cover loss, by the railway syndicate. The sum amounted to over \$10,000,000, and even Purbeck Jones found it hard to raise such a sum, but his credit obtained it for him, and he deposited his securities in a great safe at his offices in Lombard street, preferring that to a safe deposit.

It was not till the morning that the Indian mail went off that he arrived to dispatch the securities under special guard to India. When he arrived. to his utter dismay he found he had left the keys of the safe behind. They were in his country place-Harwood, just outside Carlisle and to get them in time to catch the mail was impossible. If he missed the mail his time limit for the deposit would lapse. Ho sent to the safe makers for expert workmen and offered them £ 500 each if they could break the safe open within two hours. They could not do it, and Purbeck Jones was ruined, for the railway syndicate refused him an extension of time, and the loss of the contract, which was the biggest any single man had ever undertaken, made him hopelessly bankrupt. He died in a lunatic asylum only a few months

Femininity.

Julia - Panny married a very wealthy man, you know. She tells me she has absolutely nothing to wish for.

Gertrude - Oh, Joslin! What a dreadful state to be in.-Brooklyn Lafe.

, Pluck I'p Courage,

Courage in a plant that cannot be Bestroyed by plucking up. -- Chicago

### CAR FOR LIVE FISH.

Bailway Company Builds One for the Express Purpose of Stocking Ontario Lakes.

Owing to the thousands of tourists and anglers who each year make the districts in northern Ontario their summer resort, the fish in several of the lakes have suffered to some extent; and to obviate any depletion or extermination the Grand Trunk railway, in conjunction with the Ontario government, has formulated a scheme for restocking many of the waters in the Highlands of Ontario, not by depositing eggs, fry or fingerlings, but by transplanting the parent fish early in the spring, in time to take advantage of the spawning season. With this end in view the Grand Trunk railway system has built in its shops at Point St. Charles a special car for the transportation of these fish from the place of their capture to the different lakes which are being stocked.

Heretofore the stocking of lakes has been hampered for the want of the proper means for the transportation of the fish. Young-fish, fry and fingerling's, were carried by messengers in baggage cars on regular passenger trains. This method was inadequate and the Grand Trunk recognized the fact that a fish car would have to be put in service to transport fish in large numbers. A car was therefore constructed specially adapted for the distribution of live fish. the requirements of such a car being compartments for carrying fish in which an even temperature could be maintained, proper circulation of water and air in the tanks containing the fish and sleeping and living accommodations for the attendants. The interior of the car is arranged with a series of galvanized iron tanks to hold from 1,000 to 1,500 fish. At one end of the car is an upper and lower berth, like those in a Pullman car, to accommodate two men. The ice for keeping the water at a certain temperature is carried in two compartments built for this purpose and holding about one ton each. Arrangements have been made for replenishing the water in the tanks, en route, which will be done by attaching a hose, provided with a coupling, to any of the hydrants at stations

on the Grand Trunk. The Ontario government has already contracted for 10,000 parent bass. The first shipment has been planted in the waters known as the "Lake of Bays," situated in northern Ontario, about 145 miles from Toronto. The fish now being transplanted are what are known as the small mouthed black bass, one of the gamiest species of the finny kingdom, and are being caught at St. Williams, on Lake Erie. Those which have been captured and transplanted are considered by experts as an exceptionally fine lot of fish, not one out of all that were loaded on the first shipment being less than a foot in length and many weighing three to four pouncis. Another carload has been forwarded to the Muskoka Lakes, and the fish have been deposited in Lake Rosseau. This work will be continued until the lakes in the northern districts are thoroughly stocked.

The other lakes which will be restocked are Lakes Joseph, Muskoka, Couchiching, Simcoe, and the Kawartha lakes. Though the fishing in all these waters has been good in the past, the lover of the rod and the amateur angler will be assured now of unlimited sport in any of these

# NOAH'S ARK A MODERN SHIP.

Proof Has Been Found That the Shipbuilding Industry Flourished Before His Time.

Another p-opular notion has been upset. For centuries it has been supposed that Father Noah was the first shipbuilder of the world and that the ark in which he saved his family from drowning was the first vessel that "plowed the raging main." This supposition has been found to be erroneous, for there exist paintings of Egyptian vessels, immensely older than the date 2840 B. C., usually assigned to the ark, being, indeed, probably between 70 and 80 centuries old. Moreover, there are now in existence in Egypt boats which were built about the period the ark was constructed. These are, however, small craft, about 33 feet long, seven or eight feet wide and two and a ha If to three feet deep. They were discovered six years ago by the eminent French Egyptologist, M. J. De Morgan, in brick vaults near Cairo and were probably funeral boats.

They are constructed of three-inch acacia and sycamore planks, dovetailed together and fastened with trenalls. They have floors, but no ribs. and, though nearly 5,000 years old, they held together after their supports had been removed. These boats may be considered side by side with the better known but much more modern viking ship which is now to be seen in a shed at Christiania. This craft was discovered in 1880 in a funeral mound, so that we owe both these existing examples of extremely ancient ships to the funeral customs of countries so dissimilar as Egypt and Norway.

# Acquisition of Knowledge,

"Well, and what have you learned at college, Clari ce?" we asked, anxious to know how our niece had profited by her residence at a distant institution of learning.

"I learned to do up my hair in 19 different way's," replied she, proudly,-Detroit Free Press. -

Behind Her Back. "She says her face is her fortune," said Maud. "Yes," said Mamie; "and I felt like

telling her to cheer up; poverty is no

disgrace."-Washington Star.

OUR AGRICULTURAL IMPORTS.

Countries Which Supply the United States with Products of the Farm.

A bulletin has been prepared by the chief of the section of foreign markets of the department of agriculture showing the sources of the agricultural imports to the United States from 1896 to 1990, says the Washington Star. The total value of the agricultural produce imported into the United States in 1900 was \$420,139,288, that year being the record year of the five. The annual average was \$376,369,368. Europe was decidedly our most important source of agricultural imports," we taking from that grand geographical diviion in 1900 \$129,000,000 worth of farm produce, being the largest in recent years except 1897, when we received \$152,000,000. Asia in 1900 sent us \$101,000,000 in agricultural produce, a rapid rise from \$66,000,000 in 1896. Our farm produce imports from Oceanica also rose rapidly, being \$31,000,090 in 1900 against \$22,000,000 in 1896, while on the other hand there was a falling off of \$2,000,000 in our imports of farm produce from North American countries, there being \$83,-000,000 in 1900, against \$85,000,000 in 1895. The imports, however, in the three years preceding 1900 were larger than this. There was a large falling off in agricultural imports from South America, they being \$93,-000,000 in 1896 and only \$64,600,000 in 1899 and \$66,000,000 in 1900. The leading articles of farm prod-

uce imported by us in 1900 were, in

the order of their importance, sugar, hides and skins, coffee, silk, vegetable fibers, wools, fruits and nuts, tobacco, tea, wines, vegetable oils and cocoa, the value of each of these exceding \$5,000,000. Our chief sugar imports came from Dutch East Indies. \$24.170.000 worth; flawaii, \$20,-392,000; Cuba, \$18,244,000, and Germany, \$12347,000. Following these countries at a very considerable distance were the British West Indies. British Guiana, Santo Domingo and Porto Rico in the order named. The British East Indies surpassed themelves in 1900 in sending us hides and skins, we taking \$19,731,000 from them, besides \$7,253,000 from the United Kingdom, \$5,380,000 from France, \$4,714,000 from Germany and \$4,236,000 from Argentina. Smaller amounts came from European Russia, Brazil, Mexico and China. Brazil was far and away our source of coffee supply, sending us \$33,905,000 worth. Venezuela trailing at a distance with \$3,533,000 worth and Mexico with \$3,313,000. Below the \$3,000,000 mark was the Dutch East Indies. Guatemala, Costa Rica and Colombia in the order named. Japan led in silks, sending us \$19,715,000 worth, against \$12,367,000 from China and \$10,817,-000 from Italy France sent a little over \$2,000,000 worth. Vegetable fibers came principally from Mexico, the figures being, Mexico \$12,113,000 worth, Egypt, \$6,157,000, and the Philippines, \$5,019,000. Our wool imports came chiefly from the United Kingdom, aggregating \$7,688,000; British Australasia, \$2,968,000, and Argentina, \$2,675,000. China and European Russia followed in the order named. Italy is our principal vendor of fruits and nuts, sending us \$4,540,000 worth in 1900, against \$3,330,000 from the British West Indies and \$2,053,000 from Spain. Costa Rica, Colombia

Cuba and the Netherlands sent us practically all the tobacco received, their figures being \$7,616,000 and \$4,569,000, respectively. China sent us \$4,873,000 worth. France, Germany and Spain furnished wines to the respective amounts of \$3,845,000, \$1.179,-000 and \$539,000 in 1900. Vegetable oils originated in 1900 in the United Kingdom to the amount of \$1,239,000. France \$1,235,000; Italy \$1,147,000 and the British East Indies exported \$1,575,000. The British West Indies exported \$1,575,000 worth of cocoa to ns in 1900, Dutch Guiana \$818,000 worth, Ecuador \$771,000 and BrazH \$707,000 and Portugal \$540,000.

and France each exceeded the mil-

lion mark.

# What Was Due the Professor.

She was a normal school irl and had taken the regents' examination in Latin. Comely, well-dressed, alert, and rather "proper" in her mannerisms, she would no doubt take great offense if told that she was so addicted to slang that she dropped into it without having any more than a subconscious knowledge of the fact. And yet this is what happened. The examination was over and the papers were being collected.

"Miss ---," said the chief examiner to the young woman, "did you not look on Miss --- 's paper for answers to these questions?"

"No. sir," snapped the girl, with eyes ablaze.

"Well, Prof. - thought he saw you do so."

"Well, Prof. - has another think coming," retorted the candidate, who expects some day to have in her care a part of the growing population of New York City .- N. Y.

#### . He Had the Last Word, She had talked to him for two long,

weary hours. Woman's crubs, woman's aims, wom-

an's work in the world, and woman's general superiority to man-all spelt with a capital "W" these were the theme of her conversation. At last, acting on the trodden

worm theory, he said: "You believe in the Bible, I sup**р**оне ?"

She condescended to answer in the affirmative. "Well, then, you will find that wom-

an in but a side issue, after all, madam."-Brooklyn Life.

### SAILORS LOVE BASEBALL.

Jack Tare of Brooklyn Navy Yard Always on Hand to Witness Championship Games.

How ardent a lover of our national game is Jack Tar! Never a baseball game is played either at the Polo grounds in this city or at the Brooklyn baseball park without a liberal sprinkling of the uniforms of Uncle Sam's Jackies. These uniforms cover not only the forms of the "men behind the guns," but of the officers who direct the workings of the big machines of death. There are no more enthusiastic "rooters" than are the sailors, and none who seem to better appreciate the fine points of the game, says the New York Times. Every man-of-war has its ball team. and regulations and traditions are

winked at in so far that the officers often doff their dignity to take a hand In the game with the men before the mast. Some of them, with Annapolis experience behind them, are elever at the sport. It is to the playing of these naval nines at ports of call that the Introduction of the game in foreign countries is due, for as flerce rivalry exists between the ball teams of the various vessels when they come together as between the boat crews. To the landsman that statement may not seem to count as much, but to him who knows the navy, he knows that there is nothing that arouses more rivalry or causes more profligacy in betting than a meeting of the crack crews of a counte of vessels. When these meet "Jackie" will bet the last dollar in his clothes and half the contents of his kit on the crew of his vessel. Nothing else arouses him quite as much as this, the nearest thing to it being a meeting of the nines of two vessels of a fleet in a game of base-

That is the reason why the sallor is so constant an attendant at the ball games when he is in this port. So. when the ball season is on even the Bowery with its attractions has to suffer, as "Jack" blows in his spare change for a chance to see the crack pitchers of the various league clubs. How he manages to know, as he does, all the peculiarities of each batsman and pitcher is a mystery. Yet such as have happened to sit near a group of gossiping sailors during a game can vouch that he knows what he is talking about and that his judgment in sizing up a player is rarely at fault. Of all the baseball cranks he seems the

### **MARGHERITA'S MANY VIRTUES** ffaly's Former Queen Deserves the High Esteem in Which

most sane, at that. He rerely has a

rooted prejudice in favor of this or

that team. All he wants is to see a

good game, and, given that, he appar-

ently cares little which team wins.

She Is Held. There is no more popular woman among the royalties of Europe than ex-Queen Margherita, the widow of King Humbert of Italy. She has been justly designated as the most virtuous and most intelligent of queens. Nothing which helped in the smallest degree to stimulate intellectual life was neglected by the queen, and many of the schools in Rome, Florence and other educational Italian centers are under her personal patronage and support. The technical training of girls has always especially appeared to her, and the school named after her in Rome, where the pupils are taught all kinds of domestic work and art embroidery, is one of her favorité hobbies, says the Chicago Chronicle.

The Marianna Dionigi Royal Technical School for Girls contains a fine collection of photographs of leaves. flowers and fruits, which the girls use as copies for their lace and embroidery. These photographs were a gift from the queen. Another of her majesty's pet schools is that of the Santissima Annunziata, in Florence, where for generations the young princesses of Italian families have been educated. This is charmingly situated on the hills above the city.

the house being one of the royal villas. A portrait of Queen Margherita, inscribed to "my dear pupils," is in one of the rooms, and the queen herself often spends an afternoon with the care alunne, criticising their drawings and their literary attempts. In Florence there is also one of the technical schools founded by young Prince Ginori-Conti. a noted social worker in the garden city. But, besides these educational institutions, the queen also takes under her care many which shelter the deaf and dumb, the blind and the afflicted little ones of her country.

# Kaffr Banking.

The Kaffirs have a simple method of banking. Before setting out to trade they select one of their number as their banker and put all their money in his bag. When an article is purchased by any of those who are in the combine the price is taken by the banker from the bag, counted several times and then paid to the seller. After which all the bank depositors cry out to the banker, in the presence of two witnesses selected: "You owe me so much." This is then repeated by the witnesses. The general accounting comes between the banker and his several depositors when all the purchases have been made, after which all the natives go home.-Detroit Free Press.

Sources of Denmark's Wealth. Denmark started last century as the

poorest country, per head of population, in Europe: it ended as one of the richest. And it has to thank its land system and dairy system for the fact .- American Dairyman.

Off-Hand Enlightenment.

"Pa, what's th' diff'rence between sport an' pastime?"

"People make money on sport, Jimmie; but pastime has to be its own reward."-Chicago Record-Herald.

### WAR ON SEA LIONS.

Salmon Fishermen of the Northwest Would Exterminate Them.

The Veracious Amphibians Destroy Vast Numbers of Fine Fish Along the Washington and Oregon Consts.

Fishermen of the North Pacific coast are undertaking a movement for the destruction of the sea lions, the inveterate enemies of salmon and other food fishes, and which annually make incalculable ravages in the schools of Chinooks, steelheads and other varieties of salmon that hover off the Washington and Oregon coast. The last Oregon legislature passed a bill offering a bounty of \$2.50 for each sea lion killed in the waters of the state or within one marine league of the Oregon shore, Faulty wording of the bill fenders the money set aside for the purpose unavailable, and the Fishermen's Protective union has raised a fund by private subscription to hire men to shoot the lions at their breeding grounds, says the San Francisco Bul-

How many salmon each of these monsters kills each day is purely a matter of conjecture, but instances are known where a single sea lion has killed and eaten 18 salmon within a very few minutes, and it is certain that many hundreds of thousands of royal Chinook salmon are killed every year by these pests. When fishing the lions usually travel in groups of from six to eight, and they will follow a school of fish for days. They feast on the fish until they become quite dainty, and will take but one bite from the choicest part of a salmon, leaving the remainder of the fish to float ashore or to be devoured by the scavengers of the seas. The hons vary in size, but when fully grown average about eight or ten feet in length, although pecimens have been seen fully 18 feet long and which would weigh 4,000 pounds. It is during the summer months,

that the lions do the greatest amount of damage. They are numerous at many places along the Pacific coast, but their favorite rendezvous appears to be in the neighborhood of the mouth of the Columbia river. Thousands of them congregate at Seal Rock lighthouse during the breeding season. These rocks are aituated well out from the beach, and can be reached only during the extreme low tides of the summer months, thus rendering the retreat of the lions comparatively safe from attack except during isolated periods. After leaving the rocks at the close of the breeding sesson, the lions are even more voracious than usual, and the schools of fish in that region of the ocean have short shrift. Numbers of the lions gather on the mouth of the Columbia river, and the sands of the jettys are black with them during the warm hours of the day. The huge mamnials appear to be warned by instinct of the approach of a school of salmon, which is always the signal for a hurried putting to sea, and before the return thousands of the choicest fish in the world have been devoured or so badly mutilated that they will die. Commercially the sea lions are of little value, and not enough can be realized from their sale to make the killing of them profitable.

This moupled with the extreme difficulty of securing the carcasses of the animals, as the lions take to the water as soon as they are shot, makes the hunting of them a precarious means of livelihood and renders it absolutely necessary that a bounty be paid if the lions are to be exterminated. The hides, which weigh when green about 70 pounds, sell for half a cent a pound. The whiskers of the male sell for from ten cents to 13 cents for the largest, which are from 10 to 12 inches in length. Those of the female are fewer in number and less valuable, but longer, some reaching 18 inches in length.

A vast amount of valuable fishing gear is destroyed each year by the lions. A big male lion, while in pursuit of a salmon, will become entangled in a gill net or trap, and before it can possibly be released will by its desperate lashing and biting tear the web into shreds. The amount of damage done each season would be difficult to estimate, but it & certainly enormous, and their extermination at the least would be of untold benefit to the fishing industry of the

# Value of the Apple Crop.

Wheat is a great crop in the United States, but there are several others that beat it in value, and among them is the apple crop. As nearly as statistics can give it, the apple crop of 1900 was 215,000,000 barrels, and \$2 a barrel is a fairly moderate average to put upon them. That would yield \$430,-000,000, or 50 per cent, more than the wheat crop, which was rated at a little more than \$300,000,000. America exported 4,000,000 barrels of apples last year, and as they learn to care for apples as they do for other fruit they will export still more. Appleaselected for quality, size and soundness. carefulfy wrapped in paper, as oranges are, and boxed like that fruit, will bring fancy prices when apples are scarce and will prove as paying an investment as any fruit that can be put up. Abroad, all over Europe, American apples bring \$4 a barrel when they are selling here at \$2, and, of course, they retail for a very much larger sum. Orchard owners in this country have just begun to learn what may be done in the apple way.-Chi-

### A LITTLE NONSENSE.

"Father," asked 12-year-old Mabel, looking up from her book, "what is repartee?" "Back talk," answered father, "but so smart that you wish you'd said it yourself."-Philadelphia Press.

Downie (referring to the pleasantfaced lady who has just passed)-"Ah, my boy, I owe a great deal to that woman." Dorking-"Indeed! She's not your mother, is she?" Downie-"No, my landlady."-Glasgow Evening Times.

"I'll have to leave your service, sir," said the coschman to the trust & magnate. "I'm sorry to hear that, John. Why?" "Every time I drive you out, sir, I hear people say: 'There goes the scoundrel,' and I don't know which of us they mean."-Philadelphia Times.

Robbers and Robbers,-"Henry. Henry," whispered the wife of the good citizen, "there's a robber in the house." "Lots o' them," replied Henry, sleepily, "in the house and senate, too, but they sin't a circumstance to those in the city councils." →Philadelphia Press.

Time--- 100 Years Hence. Scene-Liverpool .- Aged British Inhabitant (pointing to liner steaming out of harbor)-"That boat, sir, is one of the most remarkable vessels in this country." Stranger--"Indeed! How is that?" British Inhabitant-"It's the only British steamship that doesn't belong to an American syndi-

cate."-Fun. The New Styles .- "Henry is a brute," said Mrs. Justwed to her mother, to whom she had gone for sympathy. "Why, what has he done, my poor child?" "Why, he-he says that my new bonnet—the one that is trimmed with those lovely cherries and things-boo-boo-he says-he says it looks like a boiled dinner."-Baltimore American.

## FEMININE INSOLENCE.

It Flourishes in the Office Where the Female Confidential Clerk is Employed,

A POKE

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M. T. W.

A long established rule of this office is to say nothing but what is nice about the women. But it is sometimes allowable to tell the truth about "a" woman. My editor allows no one to generalize from specific cases, and that is a perfectly safe course to pursue. If Mrs. A. is not just what she should be that does not mean that the rest of the alphabet must be of her stripe, or that the other Mrs. A.'s are in her class, says a writer in the New York Press. With this explanation allow me to proceed. Mrs. Hetty Green, probably the ablest business woman of the age, with the possible exception of Mrs. Lynch, has been quoted in a yellow journal article as saving that women as a class never will succeed in business. And she gives—as alleged-aundry ressons, which may be true or not, as auits the opinion of the reader. A. few people do their own thinking. In ordinary commercial life women

never assert themselves. They are in a class with bookkeepers. They take dictation and typewrite what they take, and that is about all. I do not refer to saleswomen in any dry goods houses. But in an office a woman assistant is soon spoiled by the politeattentions of her employer. He may never transgress, but she inevitably, absorbs the notion that she is the boss. She begins to take account of his goings and comings: She is interestedly inquisitive about his habits during the day. If he goes out for a cigar she has her suspicions. If he goes for a drink she feels at liberty to reprimand him. She assumes a responsibility for the proper conduct of his business that is out of all proportion to the salary she receives for diligently attending to her legitimate duties. She takes liberties that would cause the instant discharge of a man.

A man called yesterday at an office in Union Square, in one of the tall buildings that now eye-sore the place. and found therein a youth of some 20. years and a woman of 25 or 30. "Io-Mr. Grimsall in?" he inquired, lifting a decimal his hat to the lady. "He is not," she said. "This is his office, I believe?" "It is." "I have called to see him on a matter of business, can you tellme when he will return?" "No." She threw herself indolently into a chair. The visitor began to grow warm. He was not there for favors. "You must know something about his business, madam," he said icity. "When will he be here?" "I can not say, but I am here!" He bowed down to the floor and said, "I beg pardon, but who on earth are you? I have not the honor of your acquaintance, but are you employed here, or do you own the business?" "I am im control of the business at present, and if you want to talk business you must talk it with me." Without a word he opened the door and ran away.

Insects Are Born But to Die.

The life of a perfect insect in usually very brief. Of all the myriads of butterflies and moths, bees and wasps, flies and bettles, which make up one of the most marked features of the summer, the rast majority will die before the season is over. A mere handful will survive into next year, while few, indeed, are those that will live to see a second summer. The duration of the larval stage is much longer. The dragon-fly nymph, as it is called, lives it is called, lives in the water. The perfeet insect that emerges from it has only a few weeks, at most, of sunshine and the upper air. There are flies which live only for a single day, taking in that time no food, having, indeed, no mouths by which to take it .- Paris Messenger,

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