Great Composer Worried Over Small Hole in His "Bost Coat."

"Baron Edmondo Mayor des Planches. ambassador from Italy, told a new Verdi story at a dinner given in Washington recently. The great Maestro had just produced his opera "Aida" in Paris for the first time and the entire city was wild with enthusiasm. The president of France made it known that at the second performance the resette of the Legion of Honor would te conferred on the illustrious composer, a great fote was gotton up to bonor the event. The president made the presentation, and Verdi seemed evercome with emotion. Indeed, he fumbled with the rosette so long that one of the attendants of the president arose and, taking his penknife, made a near slit in the coat and placed the button firmly in place. After the operaa grand hanquet was given and everyone was concerned to see that the Maestro looked unhappy. He would iapse into fits of musing even during the most enthusiastic speeches, and would sigh and look doleful indeed. Finally an old friend got near him and saked solicitously what was troubling him. Verdi mused a long time and then explained sadly. "I do not see that you can do anything to help me and, indeed, I cannot see how I can help myself. I am just wondering what my wife will say to me when she pees this great hole in my best coat."

MAD STRONG TOUCH OF VANITY. Old-Time Organ Blowers Who Took Their Work Seriously.

"The organ blower is passing-he will soon be like the armorer, ex-"inct," said a musician. "It's a pity. He was a quaint type.

"Most of my blowers were simpleminded old chaps who firmly believed they must suit their blowing to the music. In soft, light passages they blew soft and light. When the cresrendos thundered forth, they worked frantically, blowing with all their might and main.

"Often a facetious reporter on the local paper would refer to 'the excelent blowing of the organist's assistant. Mr. Bellows. Then the blower in his vanity would develop all the affectations of a Paderewski or a Sousa. Now he'd blow delicately, a dreamy smile on his lips, his eyes half closed. The music would change to a march, and he'd stamp his foot in time, while up, down, up, down, the old bellows, in time also, would be jerked. At a climax his face would redden, he'd bend to his task, and blow so fast and furious that the organ would nearly burst."

Stole the Sattlemake There is a sneak thief out in Callfornia who must have had an uqblessant surprise recently after a "Puccessful "pinch of a grip which he \_ricked up in the railroad station at Thus Angeles. The case had been set lown by two miners whom the crook had followed, and he evidently thought he had made a haul of gold dust at the least. When the miners discovered the grip was gone they raised a commotion and told the police that they didn't care so much about the loss as the fear that some one would get burt Through the theft. They went on to explain that the grip contained nothaing except an enormous live rattlesnake, and though no trace of the thief has come and nothing has been heard of the snake, the police and miners are still wondering how the borook looked when he opened the case to inspect his plunder.

A Tragedy in Arabia. Once an old Arab out of stone carved a scarab, as a sort of good "luck charm to wear. It was so artistic, each a bug realistic, that the sight of it gave him a scare—he thought he 'had got a case of "mania au potu" from the effects of a night before's tear. While feeling thus oreide he drank some bichloride, thinking the bug would dissolve then and there, But dope can't hurt scarabs, while it is had for Araba, and though they buried the Arab, the scarab felt fair,

Billville at the Play. When Chauncey Olcott was here an eld Billville farmer had a front seat at the play, and whom he heard the ne "He looketh death in the face and got a wife, the old man muttered audi-

"Mebbe, of he'd 'a' took a second book he'd 'a' changed his mind an' Fred single!"

A Pleasure Foregone. "Have you studied political econ

"No. si:," answered Senator Sor gaum. "I'd like to, but I'm afraid my constituents would think I was amusing myself reading books instead of fusiling for pensions and appropriarons " - Washington Star.

Not Disappointed.

Adam Zawfox - What's got you so wuch interested in that there paper? Job Blucky-I'm looking over this Est of a hundred men that owns all the money in the country. I thought mebby my name would be there, but it sin't. Well, I didn't much 'xport to find it, nohow.

Good Place for Him. "What? You don't mean to may you are going to move out to Swamp-Burst?

"Huh! You want to read the papers. There's more sickness there than in any other town in the ri-

" "Lknow. I'm a physicies."

WHY CHILDREN ARE DECEPTIVE.

Feer of Punishment Frequently Leads to Untruthfulness.

Untruthfulness in children sometimes arises through the fault of their elders, who suggest to them untruths. which children indorse from an innate sense of politeness and a wish to be agreeable. "Don't you like so and so?" save the older and the child agrees. "lan't this pretty?" comes later on, and the child partly believes that it is pretty since the suggestion has been made, the child's idea regarding the article in question would have been that it was extremely ugly. A yet more fruitful source of untruthfulness lies in the fear of punishment, and this is particularly the case with children of delicate body or of nervous temperament. Children who are governed by love rather than by fear escape this temptation to lie, but when a child feels that punishment for a fault or failing is inevitable, it seems such a little thing to cover the frailty with a lie, and yet the child who lacks the moral courage to avow a fault suffers untold agonies of remorse forevery lapse from truth. Let children be encouraged to own their faults, and even the most nervous can be made to do it, if sure that the confession takes away the punishment, or reduces it to such an extent that no bodily suffering is entailed .-- Illustrated Sunday Magazine.

FINISHED SERMON FOR HUBBY.

Wife's Readiness and Elequence That Was Altogether Unappreciated.

"Speaking of wives' duties," said the Manayunk philosopher, "I once attended service at a Unitarian church in Brooklyn when the pastor's voice went back on him. Went back altogether, it did. He stood there before us in the pulpit silently opening and shutting his mouth like a fish.

"His wife came quickly from her pew, and mounting into the pulpit, she waved her husband aside, took up the sermon where he had left off, finished it elequently and afterward brought the morning service to a conclusion with prayer."

"How very helpful that was," said a

"Yet the husband didn't think so." said the philosopher. "He called it officious, was quite angry, said his wife had been trying to show off.

"The question is," the philosopher concluded, "can a wife in her helpful seal go too far?"

Leech a Weather Prophet. A leech confined in a vial of water will prove as excellent weather prophet.

If the weather is to continue fine the leech lies motionless at the bottom of the vial and rolled together in a spiral form

If it is to rain, either before or after noon, it is found to have crept up to the top of its lodging, and there it remains till the weather is settled. If we are to have wind, the poor

prisoner gallops through his limpld habitation with amazing swiftness, and seldom rests till it begins to blow

Bale of Opium in France. According to the Echo de Paris, the government has under consideration a decree more strictly regulating the sale of optum than has hitherto been the case. The new decree will, it says, provide that henceforth only such anotheraries and druggists as receive special authorization may keep or sell opium. Furthermore, they must ascertain the object for which the drug is purchased, and keep a register of that object, as well as of the name and address of the buyer and the quantity sold.

Witch's Comb in a Window. So many "prectous" things are on sale every day that one grows rather skeptical about them. A curlo shop uptown has in its window a comb with an alliterative and alluring legend that it was "worn by a witch." It is one of those high shell objects familiar in old portraits, and though it is not carved, as are many specimens, the card excites the interest of passers-by. Likely enough some girl who had ancestors in Salem, Mass,. will buy the comb and proclaim it an heirloom.-New York Press.

Two Kinds of Fame. When Haydon, the painter, visited Stratford, he held forth about Shakespears to some rustics he met in a wayside inn. They told him that Stratford then contained "another wonderful fellow, one John Cooper."

"Why, what has he done?" "Why, sur, I'll tell 'ee. He's lived 30 years in this here town, man and boy, and never had the toothache!"

Club for the Babies. A Paris journalist has founded a babies' club. It is a spacious and pleasant building, with a garden and a clubbouse where games of all kinds are provided. There is a Punch and Judy show, and a cafe, where sweets, cakes, tea, milk and various kinds of lemonade are sold to members and their parents, while there are also,

Omineus. "The bookkeeper," said the junior partner, "has been married nearly four months new."

many toy ships and a theater,

"Well," demanded the senior partner. "What of that?" "Why, he hasn't asked for an in-

crease in salary --" "Heavens! We must have his no-

counts examined." -- Catholic Standard and Times

AS MEANS OF IDENTIFICATION. Mrs. Brady's Helpful Hint to Her Faithful "Micky."

The Bradys used to drive several miles to mass each Sunday in "the little thrap" with "th' ould gray mare." Micky, "the boy," a being of many summers, whom custom and a conservative tradition had, in splie of his uncertain years, always treated as the possessor of perpetual adolescence, drove. Next him sat Mrs. Brady, decorous in black, while scattered about the straw in the body of the vehicle, was a large assortment of "the childer"-Bradys of all ages. sexes and sizes, bare-legged and other-

wise each exuberant and articulate. It remains to this day a disputed point among the Bradys as to what memory of earlier and more frisky days induced "th' ould gray mare" to behave as she did on this particular Sunday. Rounding a corner, she swerved into

could cope with the situation, a pile of Bradys, vertical and horizontal, had been dumped into the ditch, with the little trap turned over and resting on top of the struggling heap. Then, high above the babel of cries came Mrs. Brady's voice: "Pull me

out, Micky, for the love o' hivin! The

black legs is mine!" - Cleveland

the ditch, and before Micky, the boy,

MORE THAN THEY COULD STAND.

Leader.

Fish Story Too Much Even for Hardened Listeners.

"Speaking about showers of fish," said the solemn-looking nature faker from his seat on the starchbox, "reminds me of the time we were marooned on an island in the blue Pacific. For two hours there was a shower of fresh mackerel and, strange to say, they all dropped into a sait lake on the mountainside. That brined them."

"Whew!" the old codgers chorused in unicon.

"But that's not the strangest part of the story. Ten days later a cyclone came along, picked up the brized mackerel and dropped them into a bot spring. That boiled them; and, gentlemen, they were the finest boiled mackerel you ever tasted. I thought about sending some bome to the folks,

There was a sudden interruption and sky strong men took the asture faker outside and ducked him in the horse

Important Find of Old Coins. In the side of an old well where it had lain undisturbed for 2,200 years, an earthenware jar containing 500 pleces of the time of Alexander the Great has been found, at Luxor, Egypt. One hundred of these were specimens of the silver tetradrachm of Alexander the Great, a coin COFFEEDODGIRE II weight to our half dollar. The pieces are very thick and are made of silver of great purity. The obverse bears the head of Hercules in a lion's skin; the reverse shows Zenus seated in a chair. All bear the name of Alexander in Greek. Monograms and mint marks of great interest were found on many pieces of this lot, and some of the pieces bore the Greek word for the mint marks, designating the towns or cities where they were struck. The coins are all in very high relief, so that only two or three could be

Money in Growing Pecans.

tumbling over.

stacked together without their

Strung along at a few points north of Jackson on the Illinois Central a few years ago some enterprising gentlemen established pecan groves. We remember two years after one grove of about 5,900 trees was set out in a territory previously given over to commercial fertilizer, short staple cotton and poor white people. The natives were exceedingly amused that à man could be so visionary as to expoot to get any returns for money thus invested. There were even more enlightened people who passed by on comfortable trians and smiled at the experiment. To-day that grove is keeping its owner in clover and he eas go to Europe every summer if be is so inclined .- Meridian (Miss.) Star.

Air Pressure and Health. Investigating the effect of com-

presend air on health, two British en gineers have shown that a pressure of 92 pounds a square inch-more than six atmospheres—may be endured without unpleasant results. The pressure must be taken off at a uniform rate, however, at least 20 minutes being allowed for each 15 pounds of reduction, and eapillary circulation in the body must be kept up by muscular exercise during compression. Slight temperary neuralgic pain in the arms was the only ill effect of the great pressure.

Play Has Historic Characters. Altred Testoni's new play, "Gloacetime Ressini," which was recently performed for the first time is described as the "life of the great master of music." In the fourth act, which is laid in Paris in 1860. Richard Wagnor appears as one of the characters. He is still unknown and is spoken of as the embodiment of the glorious future while Bessiul is speken of as the glorious past. A third in the group to Vincenso Bollini. The title part was played by Bracete Jacconi.

Chinese Official Pawnehous. Pawabrohers in Polsing, having refraced to reduce their 50 per cont. rate of interest, the municipal board has eponed efficial pawashage, charging eals 16 per cent.

PRAISED THE DOMESTIC BEER.

Good Joke on Connoisseurs of Popular Maited Beverage.

In an inconspicuous place in Yorkville there is a resort over which a German of ample proportions presides with the dignity which comes with the possession of a Franco-Prussian war medal. The place is not a club, tavern, hotel, saloon or restaurant, but a little of each, and its patrons, even the one American who goes there regularly. call it "Die Knelpe." A discussion as to the relative merits of the various brands of beer took place there a few nights ago which grew so heated that skat and pinochie games had to be halted for a time. The American contended that the views of the debaters were based on their loyalty to their respective birthplace more than on their knowledge of the beer which came from them, and to demonstrate this he entered into a conspiracy with the veteran landlord. All were invited to celebrate Mr. Yankee's birthday. and in honor of the occasion a barrel of "imported beer" was put on tap. It was nearly all gone before the knowing ones were informed that they had been drinking and praising the domestie product

ARROGANCE OF THE WEALTHY. Pitiful Snobbishness Exhibited by One

Rich Woman.

A family removed from the country to the outskirts of the city, and brought their chickens along. The good woman of the household sold a few eggs among her neighbors, charging 20 cents a dozen. She was perfectly content with the 20 cents; the neighbors were perfectly content with the eggs. However, informed by her laundress, a woman of wealth and position pro-

posed to have some of those eggs. "But it is ridiculous to pay only 20 cents a dozen'" she declared. "The idea! I am willing to pay 30, if they are fresh. I shall tell her so "

She sailed away in her auto-and evidently she "told her," for the next time that the laundress applied for eggs they were 30 cents.

It was the unfairness of the richthe arrogance of wealth. She had money to waste, and she was not satisfied unless she was forcing it somewhere. Ten cents, to her, indicated the difference between wealth and poverty. So it did to the laundressbut from an opposite angle.-Edwin L. Sabin, in Lippincott's.

Odd Beliefs About Butchers. "Butchers never serve on juries in murder trials," said a court erier. They are always challenged if they try to, because they are thought to be cruel. They are thought to hold death too lightly. It is feared that they might vote carelessly to hang a man where strict justice demanded the man's release. Of course, I suppose, it ian't true, this belief about butchers. especially nowadays, when, thanks to the meat trust, butchers don't slaught er. But in the past, when every day they killed cows and sheep and calves. butchers must have inclined a little toward cruelty, at least toward recklessness regarding death-don't you think so?"

---First Post Office. ---The first letter post, in the modern acceptation of the word, seems to have been established in the Hanse towns in the early part of the thirteenth century. A line of letter-posts, connecting Austria with certain towns in Lombardy, followed in the reign of Enperor Maximilian. In 1481, when Ed. ward IV. was at war with Scotland, a system of relays of borses was established in the north in order to provide the king with the latest news from the seat of war. The first regular postroute between England and Scotland was established by Charles L. in 1625

Enough Said.

-New York American.

"Tes and coffee," said the doctor, "are both bad for you. Your life will be shortened many years if you continue to drink such stuff."

"Oh, but doctor," she repiled, "I couldn't think of getting along without a cup of coffee in the morning and a cup of ten at luncheon."

"Very well. I've told you as plainly an I can what the effect will be. And, furthermore, both tea and coffee are bad for your complexion."

"I shall never drink another drop of either."-Chicago Record-Herald.

Lord and Marquis. The title lord is applied to five grades of English nobility, dukes, marquises, earls, viscounts and barons, so [ that we easnot say that a lord is higher or lower than a marquise. The grades of nobility in England run in the above order, with the addition of the beronet. The latter, however, does not receive the title of ford. The son of a duke is by courtesy a marquis, and the son of a marquis is similarly am earl.

The Fact Part. Hi Tragedy-"Did I understand you to say Barnes is traveling to fast com-

pany just now." Lowe Comedy-i said be went out with a facting company. That show he went out with is busted and trying to got home.

Confusing English. er ace one of our battleships reported fast in the mud."

"Well?" "I was just thinking that a ship fact in the mid ought to be a record breaker on the open sen."-Pick Me **AFTER THIRTY YEARS** 

RELEASED PRISONER CASHED CHECK FOR LARGE SUM.

Mystery of a Deposit of \$25,000 to Account of Man Subsequently Con-.... victed of Murder-Was It Pay ment for Crime?

In the case of the Mechanics' and Traders' bank of New York city there is a record of a payment made some years ago of a large sum, \$25,000, and with a corresponding or balancing recard upon the ledger showing that this account had been carried for some unknown or mysterious depositor for nearly 30 years.

The state officers examining the accounts or books of this bank by chance ran across this item, and having asked an explanation, received one of the strangest in the history of banking in New York.

Some years ago the ownership of the Mechanics' and Traders' bank passed into new hands and the choice of president was fixed upon Mr. Thalmessinger. He made microscopic examination of the books, determined to master every detail, present and historic, for the bank had a history dating back to the year 1830. One entry astonished him, and he made immediate visit to his counsel to whom he reported the circumstances.

He had discovered, he said, that there was a credit upon the books of the Mechanics' and Traders' bank of \$25,000, and that this deposit had remained with the bank for nearly 39 years untouched. No one in the bank knew who the depositor was or ever heard of him. Counsel advised Mr. Thaimessinger still to carry the account and not concern himself about

Two days later the bank president again called upon his counsel and was plainly in much excitement. He stated that a check for the \$25,000 had that morning been presented to the bank and that he had declined to pay it on the ground that he was not satisfied as to the identity of the maker of the check

The president was advised to permit suit to be brought against him. saying that it would be the better part for the bank to pay that \$25,000 on judgment than to run the risk of paying it to the wrong person. Suit was speedily brought and the follow ing facts were disclosed under oath

A man had been arrested for murder nearly 40 years ago. Soon after his arrest \$25,000 was deposited in his name, no one knows by whom. He was convicted and sentenced to be hanged, but the sentence was commuted to imprisonment for life. After serving as a life prisoner for 30 years in Sing Sing prison the man was pardoned. As soon as he reached New

The testimony was sustained in the trial, the identity of the man proved, the check was paid and after that this man disappeared as completely as though swallowed by the earth. The presumption was that with the money he went far away, determined to begin a new life, although then a man post 60 years of age.

Rode Year on Railroad Train. A German commercial traveler recently won a bet which he made with an "American sportsman" by taking a continuous trip of one year. The story is vouched for by the Salzburger Volksblatt. "While in the United States to look after an inheritance the German had a discussion with the American and accepted a wager of \$10,000 that he could not ride on a train for one year. The line chosen by the Ger man was from Vienna to Innsbruck via Linz and Salzburg, by express trains. He took all his meals on the train and slept every night on board. Twice each day he alighted to change cars. Occasionally he would be mer at one of these points by his wife. with whom he would exchange a few words, and then be off again. The monotony of it all threatened his reseon and toward the end of the year he had a severe attack of influence. This was overcome and the last trip of the year was successfully made. Except for a slight nervousness, from which he will recover, the winner of the bet is perfectly well after his oneyear trip." In commenting on the story another German paper says: "From Salzburg—must be taken with

Tattoe as Temperance Pledge.

Kim Kyong Syop is a big, strapping fellow, energetic in body and mealous in spirft, who is engaged in seiling the Scriptures in Korea.

Five years ago be was worshiping evil spirits, says a missionary who sends home the story to the British and Foreign Bible society. For three years he sacrificed a cow to them each year. When Kim became a Christian he cleared out of his house and premises 37 "devils' nests" made of paper and old rags.

On the ball of each thumb Kim has a black spot, and the missionary asked him if they were tattoord.

"Yes," said Kim. "I did that when I vowed to give up strong drink-ac that if ever again I raised a glass of liquor to my mouth in either hand i should see that spot and remember my fow."

Unkind Deduction. Mrs. Benham-I'm going to give a big party on my birthday. Benham-Who will be invited? Mrs. Benham-Just my friends. · Renham-I thought yes said that you were going to give a big party.

BUN'S RAYS ABOVE THE CLOUDS.

Balloonists Compelled to Shelter Faces from the Fierce Heat.

At the height of two miles the sea shines with a fierce intensity unknown below where the dust and the denser air scatter the rays which, thus diffused, lose their intensity while if luminating every nook and corner of our houses. At heights exceeding five miles this diffused light is mostly gone and the sun shines a glowing ball, sharply outlined in a sky of which the blue is so dark as to approach blackness. At the outer limits of the atmosphere the sun would appeer a brilliant star of massive size among other stars; and if one stepped from its burning rays into shadow he would enter Egyptian darkness. At the height of a mile and a bail we found it necessary to shelter our faces to prevent sunburn, although the air around as was but little warmer than that of the previous night, being about 45 degrees. As the afternoon wore on and the balloon began to cool and sink, we were obliged to throw out much sand, casting it away a scoopful at a time, and just after sunset it was even becossary to empty two or three bags at once.-At-----

TRAITS OF AUSTRALIAN GIRLS.

Equally at Home in Saddle or Bailroom, Says Writer.

...Many Australian giris live right up in the bush, or "stations," which are miles away from any town or village, and their time is largely occupied with riding and driving, they are as much at home on a horse as a duck is in the water, and think nothing of riding 20 miles or so to pay a visit, says a writer in Woman. Household duties claim & share of their time, however, and any day they are liable to be left without servants and with a house full of visitors, but are in an wise daunted by such an occurrence. Then the bush girl comes down to the capital for the season, and far from anpearing a country bumpkin or a tom boy after her free and open air life, she is as much at home is a ballroom as any town-bred girl as neat and well dressed as if she had never ridden barebacked over wild tracts of country with little thought of appearances.

Circumstantial Evidence. "You say you met the defendant on a street car, and that he had been drinking and gambling," said the attorney for the defense during the

cross-examination. "Yes." replied the witness. "Ild you see him take a drink"

"No." "Ind you see him gambling?"

"Then how do you know." demanded the attorney, "that the defendant had been drinking and gambling?" gave the conductor a blue chip for him

car fare and told him to keep the

. Family of Sixty Millions.

shange."-- Lippincott's

The most conspicuous trait which has been revealed in the character of the system is its abborrence of race suicide. An extremely fat and vigor ous overer has been known to porduce as many as 60,000,000 eggs, white 16,000,000 is a fair average. Suppose there were but a single pair of oysters at the beginning, how many would there be in the fifth generation & every egg developed". If you can get the correct answer, it will be just exmetly \$6,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000,000 600,000,000,--Cassell's Saturday Jour

Decadence of Wagering in England. We have lost our love of wagering. and perhaps this is not a matter for general regret. Yet it seems to me that there was much barmless merri-

ment in the readiness with which men

of all clauses staked sums, according

in the means at their dispess! to show

that they had at any rate the courage lef their opinions. In these strenuous times few have the opinions, and fewer still the money with which to back them.--Fry's

A Different Bird.

Magamae.

A Philadelphia school teacher was having a class in reading, and thesubject was how an eagle had carried a small baby out of its oradio and taken it away to its nest on the mounfains.

As the story seemed to improve the children, she tried to explain to them that it was only a story-that eagles did not carry off little children. Just then a little hand was raised

and a small boy remarked, "Frence, teacher, the sterk does that."

Prudence.

"So you have determined to dividing our country," said the swarthy na-

"We bave," asswered the resolute white man. "Now, tell me what feature of civilization interests you

"Well, if you are absolutely desermined to civilize us, I'd like to take out some life insurance."

Out of the Mouths of Babos, Little Arthur stood pooring down into the countenance of his haby sintor, whom the nurse was singing to

"Say, nurse," he finally whispered, "It's mearly uncommeleus, len't M?" The nurse nedded in the affirmative, and same on.

"Then den't alog any more, or you'll Mill it."

## L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS

felber coste asset " da.db.,