WOMEN WHO WORRY.

And Something About the Things Over Which They Have Been Known to Feel.

There's a woman who never gets the eight hours' sleep to which she is entitled because she has so much difficulty in turning out the gas to her satisfaction. She turns it out just as other people do, of course, but there lurks in her mind such a dread of asphyxia that she is not content with the process.

After she has turned and turned until she has assured herself that her sacrificial screw cannot further, she proceeds herself with half a dozen matches. There she lights solemnly one by one and holds over the burner to prove that there is no leak. Then she says her prayers and later returns to the gas jet to sniff and sniff, so that she can detect the odor of any of the deadly stuff escaping. Then she investigates with another match or two, when she is content to go to sleep.

As often as she awakens during the night, however, she gets up and applies a match to the burner to convince herself that by no chance has it been turned during her sleep, but nevertheless she awakens in the morning with a start and invariably surprised to find that she's alive after the perils to which she has been exposed during the night.

There's another woman known to the writer who gathers gray hairs through her fear of cats, says the Baltimore News. She loathes cats, and, though one is never allowed inside her domicile, she incontinently opens every box in her possession, from a powder box to a receptacle for hats, in fear and trembling lest a feline creature jump from it at her.

If the feline creature, she avers, were to be a tiger she wouldn't mind it so much, but she just couldn't stand a kitten.

Burglars rob other women of their peace of mind; still others are consumed with anxiety for fear their husbands will fail in business, or there'll be a run on the bank in which their money is invested, or that their children will fall ill and die, or the revolver that lies unloaded in the drawer of the secretary will suddenly load, aim and fire itself and exterminate the family.

It's a very poor woman who has not something over which to fret, some pet perpetual thing, that fills her mind when the daily worries of life have gone to sleep or have been proved phantoms.

It is a prerogative of the gentler sex to have these visions of disasters for companions. Even a woman arises who has turned philosopher and who refuses to cross a bridge before she comes to it, but nevertheless even she has her moments of terror, and these are caused by the fear—you would never guess it—that her immunity from anticipations of evil will lead to her being called masculine by her own sex.

GREAT CENTER OF TRADE.

Buenos Ayres, Argentine, is the Chicago of the South American Continent.

The greatest city on the South American continent is Buenos Ayres. The population is believed to exceed 800,00. It was officially estimated to be over 795,000 at the close of 1899 and the increase is calculated to be close to 30,000 a year, says the Chicago Chronicle. Therefore, New York, Chicago and Philadelphia are the only cities in the United States which surpass the Argentine metropolis in the number of inhabitants. There are only about ten cities inhabited by white men in all the world which are bigger.

Size is not the only notable form of development. The revenue of the city is about $8,000,000 a year in gold. Its streets and parks are lighted by more than 13,000 gas jets, over 8,000 lamps and about 1,250 are lights, the latter of 1,000 to 2,000-candle power apiece. There are 15 theaters or similar places of public amusement and they have about 1,500,000 spectators every year. The street railways carry 116,000,000 passengers annually, which means some $5,000,000 income.

It is one of the most cosmopolitan of all the earth's centers. Besides the underlying and still dominant Spanish element which used to have the Argentine in exclusive possession, there is a large Italian population, fast increasing, and the Germans, English, French, Irish, Welsh, Portuguese, Chilians, Poles, Russians, Swiss and other nationalities are well represented in the Argentine Republic, and, to some extent, in its capital. All this is interesting, but a most important fact is yet to be stated. There is a cleanliness movement on in Buenos Ayres and it is said to be a great success. The men in charge of the city are men of intelligence, who know something of the importance of sanitary improvements, and are said to be alive to their duties. One of them recently announced the determination of himself and his lieutenants, in spite of many obstacles, to make Buenos Ayres the cleanest city in the world.

The Library.

"Yes, this is Daniel's library. You know a man like him must have a place where he can get alone and think and cultivate himself. How much do you spose it cost to fix up this room? Nine thousand dollars! I could show the bills if had time. But, after all, it's worth it. We mustn't forget that we owe something to art and literatchour. Just look at all the books Daniel has gathered. I sometimes wonder how he ever does it, him being such a busy man and every one of them just exactly as good as it was the day it come out of the store, too!" Chicago Times-Herald.

FOREIGN GOSSIP.

About eight children are born in Norway annually.

A century ago £20 had as much purchasing power in Paris as £10 has to-day.

In 1890 the number of Prussian males who married before they had reached the age of 20 was 458.

Among the 112,872 inhabitants of the city of Basil on December 1, 1900, there were 43,118 foreigners, that is, only 41.74 were Swiss.

The legal rate of interest in Canada is now five per cent, the reduction from six per cent, having been made by a statute of the Dominion, which went into effect January 1.

The thatched cottages of England are gradually disappearing, says a London newspaper. This is due to the cheap price of slate, which is now generally used for roofing purposes.

It appears that in the United Kingdom there are 60,000 postmen, and in the course of a year close upon 7,000,000 letters, postal cards, parcels, circulars, boxes and newspapers are delivered.

Paper doors for dwelling houses are coming into use in Germany. They are formed of several thicknesses of stout paper, dampened, pasted and rolled. They have no crevices or joints to harbor dust or vermin, and are yielding to the feel.

Medical authorities declare that infectious diseases are often transferred from one person to another by means of the barber's brush. To obviate this risk a German has devised a brush made of plant fibers which is so cheap that a new one can be used for each shave.

GENEROUS WOMEN.

A Few Instances of How They Have Disposed of Other People's Property.

It is said that women are not generous, that they clutch their possessions tightly and only part with them for value received; that they are penurious to a degree that makes their brothers gaze at them askance. How true this is is a matter of opinion. The sex has found its defenders just as it has found its prosecutors—sometimes written persecutors, says the Baltimore News.

There are those who declare that a feminine creature, once her sympathies are aroused will give away her last crust. There are others who go still further and say she'll give away some one else's last crust.

This latter proposition there is none to dispute, from early youth to extreme old age femininity is busy disposing of all the property of other people that comes its way.

Why, there's a child of ten known to the writer who the other day wrote out in a large, round hand her last will and testament. After disposing of all she owned, she was aghast to find that she had left nothing to a beloved cousin. But this only perplexed her for a moment. Almost directly she added to the document:

"And to my deer cousin Ray I leave brother Reuben's gun."

Her brother Reuben being alive and very fond of the aforementioned weapon, waxed indignant at this piece of injustice, but that didn't worry the testator a particle. She declared what she had written she had written, and was not to be erased, and the will was immediately filed away, therefore, with her father's papers.

Then there's a woman, aged 70, known to the writer, who has given away and sold in her lifetime so many of her husband's favorite coats, vests and shoes that that gentleman even now lacks all his wearing apparel securely in his own closet lest he dares so much as to walk across the hall for a cigar.

The ladies between those extremes of ages, who have not at some time gained a reputation for generosity by giving away some other body's possessions are extremely far between. Perhaps that's the reason the rummage sale appeals so strongly to the sex. To the rummage sale may be sent all those articles that one has been wanting to get rid of for ages, and such of those of the other members of the household, from the cook down, as one can get one's fingers on.

There are melancholy tales told of these sales. At one they hold not long ago a mistaken gentleman placed his overcoat on a chair for a few moments while he helped arrange some of the decorations. When he returned it had been sold with much dispatch for a quarter of its value.

A young woman sauntering into such a sale laid down a book she had in her hands down for an instant, when, presto, they went for a song—and the benefit of a charity.

Examples of this sort might be multiplied indefinitely, but whether they show that women grow enthusiastic in the pursuit of good works, to be discriminating; or whether they show, as the critics say, that women are particularly generous with other people's property, the writer dare not determine. The reader, aided possibly by personal experience, can draw his own deductions.

Queen Alexandra's Modesty.

An interesting story is being told of Queen Alexandra, which is typical of the woman. Some one at Osborne addressed her as "your majesty." The day after Queen Victoria passed away "There cannot be two queens," she remarked, adding that she wished to be called "her royal highness" until after the funeral of Queen Victoria. San Francisco Argonaut.

Only a Few Wise People.

On a few people know enough not to eat too much.—Washington (Ia.) Democrat.

SOUTH SEA MEDICINE MEN.

They Are Alike Capable of Both Causing and Curing Disease.

Among the South Sea islanders no man dare work on days from the causes indicated by the wizard, if they are called upon to analyze the effect, that health is the natural condition and that every departure from it must be caused by supernatural agency, and since disease is an evil, you must look for its agent among those who are evil-disposed. Thus they are at one with many good people in Europe who take comfort in the thought that every visitation of sickness is a divine punishment for their sins, but savages push their logic one three. Their gods do not interfere for mischief's sake, and since all men have enemies and are free to invoke the unseen powers for either good or evil the sick man has only to make his choice among the number of his ill-wishers and charge his woes to avenge him.

Early skilled evil tends to specialization, says the Medical Record. A few successes in causing illness by spells gave a man a reputation as an expert. The unsuccessful found them ready to remove their enemies for a consideration, he took to the business as a profession, handing his secret down to his son, and so, in time, the trade became hereditary. A family that once acquired a good good care not to lose it by budging as the "wise women" sometimes did for the art of killing by witchcraft had this decided advantage over the art of healing, that if the spell failed there were either days or weeks of something in the kava cup or a club stroke on a dark night. Thus among some of the Melanesian tribes it is not too much to say that the population is divided between the companies of them that caused disease and them that healed it.

In Fiji leprosy was a special branch of the black art. No common wizard has the hardihood to pretend that he can compass it by the ordinary means of burying a lock of the victim's hair in a bamboo with incantations, and this is well, for even the most cunning healers admit that leprosy is incurable. The power of inflicting with leprosy is hereditary in certain families alone. Their deified ancestors have become, as it were, leper gods, whose priests are the oldest living representatives of their stock. The evolution of the idea may be easily traced. Leprosy prevails in certain families, therefore the spirit of leprosy which is the Fijian equivalent for contagion, is a sort of family retainer, obsequious to the commands of his hereditary masters, and since a living spirit must have a place to live in, certain stones are pointed out as his shrines and these are hedged about with a taboo that is never raised.

WAS NEW AT THE SPORT.

How a Novice at Deer Hunting Killed Three Bucks on Successive Days.

"Well, boys, let's each of us travel by himself today and see if we won't have better luck." There were four of us sitting at the breakfast table; three old hunters and one who was new at the business; no men in camp, poor hunting, but a determination and firm belief that we would obtain our hearts' desire in time. Of course, the new man was assigned the least likely old woods road, easy to follow, one that he couldn't get out of, one that no deer was ever seen in, says the Maine Sportsman.

Well, we came back at night, one by one, empty handed. All but the new man. He had sat down to eat his dinner on a log, and a big buck had walked out into the open and our "new man" had blown a hole through him with his new 30-30. Our new man was no longer new; he had a subject for respect and congratulation.

The next day we asked him: "Whither away?" "Oh, that old woods road is good enough for me," he said, "for I can't get lost in it, you know; you know I am no woodsman." At night we found the old hunter came in, only to find our friend taking his smoke and cleaning his rifle. Yes, he had taken his lunch on that same old log, and while eating he caught sight of a fine old buck and killed him, not five rods from the place where he had dropped the first one.

"The law only allows me one more, I believe, so to-morrow I'll take the same old beat, if it's all the same to you fellows," and, sure enough, he took that same old road and severely wounded a large buck as he was crossing it. Being unused to the woods, he would not follow the trail, but went two of us, and after going a short distance we found the deer lying down, badly wounded.

This was the greatest piece of luck that I ever heard of, as each and every one of these three deer (it was in the days when three deer were allowed to a man) was a large, fat, handsome buck, with fine head, and the best part of it all was that the new man wore his honors easily and gracefully.

To Escape Conscription in France.

The magistracy of Moissac are engaged in investigating cases of voluntary mutilation practiced by a band of quacks and sharpers in the district of Quercy on young conscripts. By means of a bandage these quacks produced anchylosis of the knee, causing infirmities that necessitated the discharge of the young men, or at any rate their transfer to the auxiliary services. Each of these operations brought the operator a fee of from 1,000 to 1,500 francs.

Unmistakable.

Bobbie—I think that fellow must be engaged to sister at last.

Willie—Why?

"He has suddenly stopped giving me money."—Tit-Bits.

RIDDLES OF SCIENCE.

Some That Remain Unanswered Notwithstanding the Great Discoveries of the Last Century.

In every question that science answers she asks two that are apparently unanswerable. As the limits of the known in nature are pushed farther and further away, the sphere of the unknown beyond it expands still more rapidly, so that he who looks for the riddles of science should far to-day, says the Literary Digest. M. Gabriel Prevost states a few of them in La Science Francaise. He says:

"In treating of unexplained phenomena, we have no hesitation in omitting all mention of those whose authenticity is in need of proof, and as those of psychic origin are almost all of this nature, we shall say nothing of them. But there are others, perfectly well established, that are nevertheless treated with magnificent disdain. There is a pity for if we know their laws we should be in a position to reproduce them at will for the greater profit of both of science and of mankind. Everything leads us to believe that the causes of such phenomena are related to what is called the infinitely little.

"For instance, it was a long time before we were able to explain why two varieties of wine made with the same chemical elements, with the same vegetable substances and under the same conditions of environment, should differ so widely in quality according to the water used. When the water was analyzed it was discovered that when it contained sulphate of lime, this substance had a marked influence on the microbian fermentation. The cause having been found, the phenomenon could be reproduced at will.

"We could fill several volumes with questions of this kind that remain to be solved. The learned societies ought to promulgate a list of them every year; their pride, perhaps, would suffer, but science would gain much. We shall try to indicate a few of them:

"Why, by importing Russian skins into France, by treating them by the same processes and using the same substances as in that country (Russia), can we not succeed in obtaining the qualities of solidity, permanence and flexibility found in Russia leather? Is the difference between the two products due to the tanning, to the skins used, or to the temperature? When this 'infinitely little' has been discovered, we can make Russia leather as well at Limoges as in St. Petersburg.

"Why is Chinese lacquer superior to all others, when in preparing it the same materials are used in the same way as elsewhere?

"Why are the qualities of steel different, according to the water used for tempering it? Is the difference due to the temperature of the water, or to the vegetable or mineral substances that are held in suspension therein?

"Why should a virus, inoculated in an animal, become more active for an animal of the same species if previously inoculated in an animal of a different species?

"Why are most reptiles, even nonvenomous ones, refractory to a very large number of toxic substances, vegetable and animal?

"Why is the horse, whose strength is greater than a man's, killed by an electric discharge that a man can bear?

"Why does oxygen, which increases the activity of intraorganic combinations, impede them, on the contrary, when administered in excess?

"Why can white-hot iron be handled with impunity when red-hot burns? The so-called 'spheroidal state' does not explain it, for the evaporation of the skin is equally active at both temperatures.

"Why do the effects of thein and caffein, which are composed of the same chemical elements, differ according to the temperament of individuals?

"Why does dynamite explode in artillery caissons when the noise made by them gives the sound of upper la?

"Here we stop, not because the questions have given out, but because we should never finish asking them. Conclusion: Let us verify all the facts and then direct our studies toward the 'infinitely little.'"

Use of Insects in Agriculture.

The extent to which science can be applied to everyday affairs is well illustrated on reading the reports of the various divisions of the United States department of agriculture. Of particular interest is the statement that the division of entomology is having considerable success in introducing insects and parasites. In California an insect has been introduced which fertilizes the Smyrna fig, and as a result more than six tons of these figs have been produced in one locality alone, and it is believed that they can be produced in such amounts as to cause this country to be an important competitor in this field. The entomologists have also done a valuable service to the olive groves of the same state by introducing a parasite which destroys the olive-scale that has proved a most troublesome pest. To destroy insects a fungus disease has been introduced from Natal, which has been the means of destroying the injurious swarms of these insects, and efforts have been made to introduce from Europe parasites of the gypsy moth.—N. Y. Post.

The End Justified the Means.

Mrs. Clubleigh—But, Henry, dear, in this photograph you have but one button on your coat.

Mr. Clubleigh—Thank heaven, you've noticed it at last. That's why I had the photograph taken.—Smart Set.

COLLEGES AND CONGRESS.

How Respective Divisions Join Trade and Professions—Lawyers Popular in This Country.

[illegible] of the [illegible] in congress at the present time. Lawyers are the most numerous, however, just as they are in the most representative of the various interests of the country than in the American congress. In this country the lawyer is the most popular and [illegible] in the United States he is not only the most popular and popular, but he is actually the ruler of the country. In the American upper house there are only seven in a total membership of 87, in the lower house there are 2[illegible] in a total of 357 members. In the British House of Commons there are 67 lawyers out of a membership of the whole house. The farming interest in America is better represented in American than in England, there being 7[illegible] farmers members of congress to [illegible] in the British house. Business men are represented both in the British house and in the American congress, there being 1[illegible] in the British house and [illegible] in the American