LIKED THE SMOKE.

M Reminded Her of Her Husband While Fighting in the Philippines.

One bright afternoon lately a pretty woman of 30 or thereabouts, with mather a wistful expression of countemance, boarded a Fourteenth street gen caraway uptown. She took a place the last seat of the car-a smoker's ment. A man who happened to be ridin the same seat knew, without behimself acquainted with the little sman, that her husband is a regular sermy officer, who has been in the thick the hard soldiering in the Philiplmes for the past year. A few squares below the point at which she got on car, says the Washington Post, a she knew boarded it, and, recogmining her, took a seat alongside of her. had just lighted a big, comfortable-Backing cigar before getting on. After me greetings, he said to her:

"You are on a smoker's seat. Won't mis cigar annoy you?"

"On the contrary, that is why I took of these seats," she replied. That's peculiar," said the man.

You must like smoke, then?" "I love it," she said. "It brings Jack a bit nearer home, you know. He is such a terrific smoker, and I do so miss me smell of his eigar smoke around the house you really can't imagine how much I miss it. I take a ride on one of these rear seats every morning, just to mell the tobacco smoke."

"There's a hard-working, heat-tortured, homesick chap in officers' clothes yonder in those turbulent islands who's in luck, and who may or may not how what a faithful and lovable little weman he's got for a wife," thought the man who happened to overhear this Mittle talk.

ACETYLENE GAS.

Mow a Canadian Metallurgist Accidentally Stumbled On To a · Good Thing.

The facts relating to the discovery ef actylene gas are interesting. It apars that some years ago Thomas L. Wilson, of St. Catharines, Ont., was melting for metallurgical purposes, the Western Electrician. From se to time he used a good deal of rock and in his furnace stock, and also limestone as a flux. Whenever these two materials were fused together the slag graduced a dirty grayish substance wholly unlike anything else he had ever seen. For weeks he noticed this substance without giving more than passing attention to it, dumping it into the stream upon the bank of which he had built his furnace. One day a curious ming occurred and at a time when the pile of slag had become so large that top rose above the surface of the water. A minute or two after dumping the slag as usual into the stream, some at it going under and part remaining above the water in a red-hot state, the sizzling and steaming was followed by a bright burst of flame. The next time Mr. Willson used rock salt and limestone the blaze again appeared over the sing after it had been cast into the eiver, and, it being at night, he was manch struck by the brilliant white aight produced. The next time that he had a batch of the queer gravish residiscose of he did not waste it, but anved it and poured over it some water for experiment. He held a lighted match over the pile, when instantly there was a white, glowing flame.

HAVE LITTLE IN COMMON.

Mow the Rive Droite and the Rive Gauche, Paris, Differ in Characteriaties.

Boxes of books line either side of the zieine and stooping figures hover about them; but the Rive Droite and the Rive Gauche have little in common, says the Saturday Review. The first is blase, or it is bourgeois. It does nothing, or brawls at the bourse. It is prematurely old, or it totters on a stick. It is male, and must use rouge. It has tasted every joy; strained every nerve; ex-

mausted every sense. Youth possesses the other side. Blithe figures caper about. Upon this jeunesse, Notre Dame casts her shadsws; the dome of the pantheon rises proudly above it. Faces are fresh, woices gay; no one mumbles about his liver or is conscious of having one. Dispations, too, are different. Theaters stop glittering before you have crossed the bridge; the Noctambules and Muse, metistic cabarets, begin. No one pulls on white gloves. No one sits in a stail before a ballet. Toasts and blessings are delivered in the Cafe Harcourt, mad measures performed at Builier's; Paul and Pierre, wild lights of the Latin quarter, rejoice. Both love to clothe themselves in corduroys and wear ties and capes that fly. Both are given to dancing down the street, arm in arm, Baked to Gaston and Georges, an amaztag row. Both prefer song to study, bocks to books, pipes to pens and night to day.

Dog-Worsbipers.

An American traveler in Persia reports being asked by a village soldier the knew of dog-worshipers. "I told him I had heard of fire-worshipers, cow-worshipers and the like," he says, but not of dog-worshipers. He said be had seen some in Teheran. Some foreigners there had fed them, fondled them in their laps and taken them ridin carriages. Were they not dogworshipers?"

The Bishop Would Have Got More. A sermon for a certain mission was preached at a church in the Midlands, England, and it so happened that the preacher was a bishop. A woman put kalf a crown in the plate held at the door of the church, and then impresmively whimpered to the plate-holder: -if I had known the preacher was a bishop I should have brought more"

SCARCE SORT OF MAN.

Chicago Real Estate Dealer Makes a Startling Discovery in Human Nature.

Two facts hardest for the average man to credit are the love of God his Father and unselfish motives on the part of his brother man. Prof. Graham Taylor, of Chicago, had a startling demonstration of the latter when he tried to rent a house for his college settlement, says the Christian Endeavor World.

Two brothers had control of the property, and one of them asked:

"What are you going to use it for?" "To live in."

"Yes, but how are you going to make your money out of it?" "Don't expect to make money out of

"I mean how are you going to get

your expense back?" "Don't expect to get it back.".

"What is there in it for you, then?" "Nothing-except a home."

"Do you mean that you are going to live there?" "Exactly." .

"Do you mean to say that your people, who could live on Ashland boulevard, are going to make your home deliberately down here among Italians and Polacks, in this dirt and amoke?"

"That is precisely what I mean." "And not to have any home but this?"

"That exactly." The young man looked at the professor a long time, and then, turning

to his brother, exclaimed: "Well, brother, there are such people in the world, I suppose, but this is the first one I ever saw!"

WHITE HOUSE CHINA.

A New Set Specially Made and Marked for Each Incoming Administration.

The white house china is manufactured and decorated especially for the president's house, says the New York Mail and Express. When a new administration comes in, a new set of china is made and marked with the name of the president. Of course, the old china is kept, the new being only of sufficient quantity to make up for the breakage and loss during the last administration. The decoration of the china consists of a dark blue border, with gold tracings in shape of cornstalks and ears, while in the center of the white plate is the coat-of-arms of the United States in colors. The best of artists are employed to paint these plates, and, as each one is marked with the name of the administration, each has a value. It is often quite an interesting part of a white house dinner for the guests, while waiting for the courses, to turn their plates to see to what administration they belonged.

The china of the white house is in the special charge of the steward, and he is responsible to the government for it. It is rare that any of it gets out of the white house, and therefore the appearance of the two plates in the auctionroom last week caused comment. The price paid for them (four dollars apiece) was certainly remarkably low, in view of their value to collectors.

METAL TRADING CHECKS.

So General in Parts of Minnesota as Almost to Supplant Governent Coin.

The use of metal trading checks has become so general in some of the country districts in Minnesota as almost to supplant the use of government coin, and a suit has been instituted against the stamping concern making the checks to determine whether the production of them is in violation of the federal coinage laws. These checks, says the Chicago Tribune, are about the size of a silver quarter. They are stamped with the name of the firm for whom they are made, and bear a statement that they will be received for a certain amount in trade, the amounts ranging from five cents to one dollar. Country merchants use them in exchange for produce. They are good for trade only at the store issuing them. But from the fact that the stores refuse to pay for produce in any other currency, they soon come to be accepted by all other stores, as the farmers selling produce have no other coin to spend. In this way their circulation becomes general in certain localities. The storekeepers maintain that as they have an unquestionable right to give receipts good in trade, it is immaterial whether they are written on paper or stamped on metal. The practice is profitable one for the merchants, and it enables them to do business on borrowed capital on which they do not pay

Curious Christian Name. In the Canterbury Diocesan Gazette there is an interesting and authentic record of the use of Acts of the Apostles as a Christian name. The entries are in the registers of Boughton-under-Blean. Actsapostle, son of Thomas and Elizabeth Pegden, from Dunkirk, was baptized August 2, 1795, and the burial of this Acts postle Pegden, aged 70 years, took place November 14, 1865. The name seems to have been abbreviated to Actsy, for the vicar of Boughton has heard a parishioner speak of her uncle Actsy Pegden. Again, Acts of the Apostles, son of Richard and Phoebe Kennett, was baptized at Boughton church April, 1833.

Bogus Sausages.

A writer in the London Lancet demonstrates that sausages are made nowadays which do not contain meat at all, but only bread tinged with red

oxide of iron mixed with fat. Disappearance of an Island.

Australian newspapers report the complete disappearance of Metis island, which as late as 1890 projected 150 feet above the ocean

A HUMAN OSTRICH.

Boston Negro Eats His Suspenders and Has Indigestion.

Seeks Relief at a Hospital-Physiciana Perform an Operation and Remove the Article of Wearing Apparel.

A human ostrich has been discovered in Boston, and the physicians at the city hospital are endeavoring to save his life. The name of the man is withheld, but he is a negro, and lives in the West end. A few nights ago he walked into the hospital and said that he had eaten his suspenders, adding that once in awhile he was not all right in his mind, and while in this condition he did things for which he was not responsible. He was in that condition the night before coming to the hospital, and, becoming hungry, the idea struck him so forcibly that suspenders would make good eating that he promptly proceeded to masticate these necessary adjuncts to his own apparel. He said he got along all right for suspenders, for they did not happen to have buckles on them. He was proceeding to eat the buttons when interfered with. He did not feel very comfortable next day, and he decided that it was best to go to the hospital. Various agencies failed to afford the desired relief, and, after a consultation, the doctors decided that if the trouble was to be removed an operation must be performed. This was undertaken, and in his stomach were found a dozen pieces of suspenders, large and small. They were removed with difficulty, and the physicians say the victim of an abnormal appetite may live.

ESTES DEALS IN SNAKES.

Minnesota Man Who Makes His Living by Selling Those Reptiles.

O. W. Estes, famous throughout southern Minnesota under the sobriquet of the "snake king," has just received a consignment from Texas of 500 specimens of serpents, the lot comprising rattlesnakes, copperheads and

Mr. Estes has been very diligent in his pursuit of the local reptiles that formerly abounded about Rochester, but which, thanks to his persistence, are becoming scarce, and in the interests of his business resource is being had to the supply outside of the state.

The establishment of this snake merchant is located in the suburbs of Rochester, and Mr. Estes does a thriving business in fitting out circus sideshows with well-conditioned serpents of any variety. Alligators from Florida also figure in his collection. His "snakery" is viewed with pronounced disfavor by his immediate neighbors, as is natural, but his pets seldom escape, and no one has thus far been bitten or harmed by them. Mr. Estes handles even the hated rattlers with the utmost nonchalance, and often brings home the fruit of a day's skirmishing among the rattlesnake dens along the river bluffs carelessly dropped into a common flour sack thrown over his shoulder.

MISS LINDLEY ON KISSING.

She Smilingly Denies the Report That She Had Xever Klased.

Marguerite Lindley, the enemy of kissing, is at Cleveland, O., from New York to attend the International Women's Health Protective league. Miss Lindley says kissing is extremely dangerous to public health. She said many of the New York papers had misquoted her in the discussion of kissing.

"I did not say that I had never been kissed, as there was no occasion for such a remark," smilingly said Miss Lindley. "The papers say that I am in favor of the passage of a law to prohibit kissing, which is absurd, of course, and said that I said in my address to the Household Economic association in New York that I had never been kissed. They quoted me as saying that I had never let anyone kiss me, and that I should not let anyone if he tried. It is true that I believe kissing is dangerous. A friendly grasp of the hand is enough for me."

REED'S NARROW SHOES.

Washington Shoe Dealer Tells of the Peculiarities of the Great Man's Foot.

"Comment about Speaker Reed's necktie when he sailed for Europe,' said a Washington shoe dealer, "brings to mind the size of shoe the speaker wears. He has the narrowest foot for a man of his proportions I ever saw, and I do not believe there is another man in this country possessing the same kind of a foot. We have sold him a number of pairs and know something of his foot. His size is 11 A. This is a remarkably narrow foot for an ordinary size man. Our numbers are smaller than the usual shoe, and, measured in the general acceptance of shoedom, the speaker wears about a ten, which is not too long for a man of his size. Mr. Reed prefers a soft shoe and we generally furnish him a kid."

Two Electricians on Siecp. Edison and Tesla, both eminent electricians, are not agreed as to sleep. Edison said recently that "sleep is a dreadful habit," in connection with his statement that some nights he did not sleep a wink. Tesla says that sleep is a vitalizer and that if a man could sleep 18 hours a day he might live to be 200 years

Great Britain in China. Great Britain's "sphere of influence" in the Yang-tse-Kiang valley, China, embraces 650,000 square miles and a population of 180,000,000.

THE ARMY RATION.

As It Now Exists It is Not Suited to Hot Climates and Will Be Changed.

Orders which were sent to Cuba, Porto Rico and the Philippines directing the formation of commissions to discuss the proper rations for hot climates will, it is believed, result in some radical changes. Aside from the merits of the beef controversy, army officers have become convinced the present ration is wholly unsuitable. They believe the meat percentage must be reduced and the vegetables changed in many instances. It is thought some scheme can be adopted, based on the experience of white residents in Cuba and the Philippines, which will enable the army to conform its table to things which experience has proved profitable for the

The tendency of soldiers, it is said, is to eat too much meat in warm climates and to overindulgence in fruit and cooling drinks at the same time. It is the purpose of the war department to secure information looking toward a variable ration, regulated to different climates, and for this purpose a medical officer is to be attached to each of the investigating boards. Army officers say the present ration is probably the best that could be devised for this country, but they admit their ignorance of tropical food and believe the whole system of subsistence abroad will be reorganized this summer.

GUN GIVEN CITY OF RALEIGH.

Presentation by the Cruiser of a Spanish Cannon Captured at Mantin.

One of the most interesting ceremonies in connection with the presence of Capt. Coghlan and other officers of the United States cruiser Raleigh in Wilmington, N. C., occurred the other day in the parlors of the Hotel Orton. It was the formal presentation of the Nordenfelt cannon to the city of Raieigh. In presenting the cannon Capt. Coghlan said:

"I take this occasion, gentlemen, of formally presenting to you here in the presence of my fellow-officers a gun recovered from the Spanish cruiser Reina Christina. In doing so we do not claim that we took any more part than the other vessels of the American squadron in the destruction of the flagship of the Spanish fleet.

"Raleigh is an inland city and the cruiser bearing her name can never visit her people. It is for this reason that we present this gift. We desire that the city might know that all on board always had in mind that fair city with whose name she is honored.

"We hope you will accept it in the spirit in which it is given, not from its intrinsic value, but as an expression of love and esteem of the officers and crew for the people of the city that has given the cruiser her name."

QUITS WORK ON KEELY MOTOR

Investigation Abandoned by Men Who find the Plans and Manuncripts.

T. Burton Kinraide, of Jamaica Plain, Boston, to whom the matter was submitted for investigation, has abandoned all work on the Keely motor and will ship back to the Keely company all the machines and manuscripts left by the inventor

Since the alleged exposure of duplicity in the Keely laboratory some time ago Mr. Kinralde has done no work on the machine. The alleged exposure was considered by him a great breach of confidence on the part of the men who made the statement public, and it brought Mr. Kinraide so much unpleasant notoriety that he made up his mind to have nothing further to do with the motor or the machinery. When asked if he thought the motor was a fraud he replied: "I have by no means arrived at any such condlusion, but under the cireumstances I have decided to make no further investigations."

REBELLION RECORDS.

Immense Cost and Stupendous Eztent of This Account of the War.

Up to June 30, 1898, the government had expended \$2,610,921 in printing the official records of the union and confederate armies, and it is estimated by Public Printer Palmer that before the work is completed the total expenditure will probably exceed \$3,000,000. This is \$1,000,000 more than the total amount appropriated by congress for the erection of a new government printing office, work on which will begin within a few days. The "Rebellion Records," as the work is called; is probably the most stupendous publication ever attempted, the series comprising 111 columes, averaging 1,000 pages each, and the final edition will be 1,298,700 separate volumes. The first copy was sent to the public printer August 24, 1880, and it is doubtful if the work will be entirely completed by the same date next year.

Miss Braddon, the Novelist . Miss Braddon is still, at the age of as industrious as ever, and a new novel "The Infidel," which has been prom ised for publication soon, makes it sur that 1899 will not go by without a novel from her pen. Since 1862, when she be gan to publish in book form, she had skipped only two years, and the total number of her novels since she wrote "The Trail of the Serpent," in 1860, comes to 56, including the book almost

Marriages in England. Since April 1 Nonconformists in Enggland have been able for the first time o be married by ministers of their own faith, without the register's presence being required. The law thus acknowledges that such marriages are religious and no longer civil ceremonies.

PARTIAL TO WIDOWS

Club Formed at Peoria, Ill, That Has Unique Pledge.

The Thirty-Five Members Have Agreed to Marry None But Those Who Have Had Experience in Matrimenial World.

A club with 35 charter members has been formed in Peoria, Ill., all pledged to marry none but widows. There is no age limit or other requirement placed upon the widows: in fact, any widow will do.

The promoters of the club say their object is a worthy one; that cligible girls experience no trouble in securing husbands, but a widow is handicapped, especially if she be left with children. The club has no treasurer, as there are no dues, and the fines are immediately used up in entertainments. The officers are: President, Fred Seylers; vice president, H. Jacobs; secre-

tary, George Richardson. When a member violates the rules of the society and marries other than a widow he must pay a fine of five dollars and must invite the club to the wedding and take whatever punishment the members see fit to impose. But, whether invited or not, the club retains the right of attending the wedding, and will

Letters from eligible widows are pouring in upon the secretary, and personal applications are also made. It is now proposed to increase the penalties and establish an initiation fee, thereby creating a fund which any member who marries a widow with children may dip into more or less heavily, according to the number of children he acquires by marriage.

The secretary of the club has received

the following communication:

'Pekin, Ill., May 5.—To George Richardson, Secretary Widow's club, Peoria .-Dear Sir: I am instructed to inform you and your club, recently formed and pledged to marry none but widows, that as soon as notice of the organization was read the Chicago Times-Herald, the widows, all living on a certain street here, met and pledged themselves to marry none but members of your club. Wishing you unbounded success in your undertaking. Lam, respectfully, A. E. M., "Secretary, Lock Box 52, Pekin, Ill.

"M., President. "H., Vice President."

Immediately upon receipt of this communication the secretary of the Widows' club called for a meeting to arrange for an excursion to Pekin as soon as possible.

PROVIDED WITH NEW FLAG.

Vessels Engaged in Constwise Trade of Cuba to Fly a Blue Field with a White Union.

Cuba has been provided with a new flag by the United States government. That was designed for Cuban-owned vessels engaged in coastwise trade. It was not desired to give these vessels the American flag, as that would be a step in the direction of annexation. nor the flag of the Cuban revolution. for that would be a step toward recognition. Accordingly the new ensign consists merely of a blue field with a white union. The vessels which will fly this flag

were formerly Spanish. In order to preserve to the Cubans the coasting trade of the island, a privilege of much greater value to them than their slight participation in the foreign trade, a regulation was made when the military occupation of the island began permitting residents who owned vessels to continue in the coasting trade or condition that they abjured allegiance to Spain. This regulation covered probably nine-tenths of all the vessels owned in Cuba.

GOES TO AUSTRALIA TO WED.

Sequel to a Romance in the Lives of Two Deaf-Mutes of Minmesota.

A sequel to a pretty little romance which had its inception years ago in the Minnesota school for deaf and dumb at Faribault has just developed in the starting from St. Cloud for Australia of Miss Pearl French, the 22-year-old daughter of J. S. French, a well-known citizen. Immediately upon arrival there Miss French will become the bride of a young man named Eddy, who, like herself, is a deaf mute. Bride and groom 11 years ago were pupils together at the Faribault state school, and after leaving school corresponded. Eddy is the son of an Advent missionary in Australia who went from Battle Creek, Mich., years ago. With his mother he visited St. Cloud last summer, when the courtship actively began which will end so happily upon the arrival of the next steamer from San Francisco. Miss French will make the trip unattended. Extensive arrangements have been made for her safe arrival there.

Nearly 200 Descendants at Funeral. The funeral of Mrs. Mary Brandt, held at St. Thomas, Pa., the other afternoon, was one of the largest ever known in Franklin county, says the Baltimore American. The string of vehicles was nearly two miles long. Mrs. Brandt was 88 years old, and is survived by a large progeny. There are living nine children, 67 grandchildren. 130 great-grandchildren and two greatgreat-grandchildren, and with but a few exceptions all of them were at the

Francis Joseph's Fine Library. Although a private library, yet in importance, interest and wealth that belonging to Emperor Francis Joseph of Austria ranks among the feremost li-braries of the world. It is within the Hofburg palace, Vienna, and contains nine large and lofty rooms, filled from top to bottom with books, manuscripts, photographs, drawings and prints, including many of the utmost rarity and of the greatest value.

LIGHT ON THE COLLERER.

Important Discovery in Wireless Telegraphy Made by Professors at the University of Missouri.

Profs. M. H. Lockwood and E. B. Wheeler, of the University of Missouri. at Columbia, announce that they have discovered the true action of the coherer, the most important instrument used in telegraphing without

The properties of the coherer have r heretofore puzzled all experimenters. The result of the experiments conducted by the professors will be of great value, it is expected, in practical application of the new discovery.

Investigation has disclosed that the action of the Branley tube is due to an actual cohering of the particles. The action consists first in an electrostatic attraction, causing the particles to come in contact; and, second, in the fusion of the points of contact. An instrument has been made which clearly reveals these facts. It is composed of two electrodes, one a metallic plate and the other a metallic point carried on a pivotal arm swinging in a vertical plane.

If a considerable difference of potentiality is maintained and the point brought in contact with the filings and then carefully lifted, a thread will attach itself to the point and may be drawn to two or more inches in length. The professors have constructed a thread coherer and a receiving instrument.

The experiments have been highly satisfactory and soon will be conducted on a larger scale than at present.

NEW RAILWAY.

It Is to Cross the Holy Land from the Leeaport of Haifa to Damascus.

Secretary Hay has received details of the new railroad which is to cross the Holy Land. The proposed capital in \$50,000,000, but no shares will be put on the market, so it is said, until the line is completed as far as Nazareth. The road will run from Haifa, a seaport town 75 miles south of Beirut, to Damascus, a distance of 142 miles, and the project includes an extension from Damascus to Bagdad and the Persian gulf.

While the Jaffa-Jerusalem, the Beirut-Damascus-Hauran, and the Lebanon tramways are narrow gauge concerns the Haffa-Damascus railway will be of standard width. It is primarily intended to tap the great Hauran wheat regions, which are only partly developed, being still under the sway of Bedouins and Druze tribes, and to afford another outlet for the growing trade of Damascus, the largest city in f Asiatic Turkey.

Active operations have commenced on the division between Haifa and the Jordan, and the line is to be completed in less than two years as far as Damas cus. The Thames iron works being crowded with orders, it is likely rails, locomotives, and other material will be bought in the United States.

CORPSE SHIPPED AS BAGGAGE.

Theatrical Manager Thus Transports a Body to Save Payment of Fare.

The body of a man was found in a box in the freight depot at Kingscross England, the other day. The box had been consigned from Middlesborough to London as containing theatrical properties.

The discovery aroused suspicion of murder, but it was ascertained that the body was that of William Ryder, known in the music halls as "Jimmy Green," who had died from pneumonia. It had been consigned by Tom Pritchard, the manager of the Collinsor Burlesque company, who said Ryder's last words

"Take me back to London, too." Pritchard was short of money and consigned the body as theatrical luzgage to save expense. The consequence was that the body was brought to London for 16 shillings, whereas if it had been shipped as a corpse the cost of its transportation would have been near-

WHITE HOUSE PETS.

Two Birds That Keep Mrs. McKinley Company and Distract the President.

Mrs. McKinley has two pets to keep her company while the president is oc cupied with the affairs of the nation. These pets are two birds—"Willie," a canary, and "Mac," a mocking bird, both named for the president. "Willie" hangs in Mrs. McKinley's sitting-room, and "Mac," who is a most accomplished and animated singer, in the library. The president enjoys the birds quite as much as Mrs. McKinley does. But not long ago when "Mac" was inspired to warble at the top of his voice musical selections in sundry and various keys the president, who had stood the serenade as long as he could, said: "Please take him away. I can't even hear myself think."

UNIQUE COAL BARGE.

One of Special Design Being Constructed for Weighing and Putting Conl on Steamers.

A coal barge unique in its design is being constructed at the Nixon shipyards, Elizabethport, N. J. The barge will be used by the United States gov ernment and will load coal on steamers, either at their wharves or on the open sea, by a system of endless chains, the coal being carried in huge buckets and weighed in transit to or from the ves-The barge is 150 feet long and has a draught of ten feet when loaded. She is 30 feet beam and is built entirely of steel. The hull is of unusual strength and will carry 1,000 tons of coal.

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLEANS