COMMONS AND CONGRESS.

Their Respective Divisions Into Trade and Professions-Lawyers Popular in This Country.

A comparison of the professions and callings of the United States representatives with those of our own members of parliament shows that our par-Siament is far more representative of the various interests of the country than is the American congress. In this country the lawyer is the most Sopopular of all candidates. In the United States he is not only the most popular candidate, but he is virtually the ruler of the country. In the Amerlican upper house there are 60 lawyers in a total membership of 87; in the lower house there are 223 in a total of 357 members. Our own parliament has 140 lawyers, or only 23 per cent, of the whole house. The farming interest in America is better represented in America than in England, there being 25 farmer members of congress to 16 British members of parliament. Bankers and financiers are about equally represented in both countries; the numbers amount to slightly over three per cent. in America and nearly 31/2 per cent. in England. There are 33 English journalists

M. P.'s, equal to five per cent. of the house, while there are only 14 American press congressmen-equal to three per cent, of congress. Doctors are singularly scarce in the American legislature, while our parliament has nine, says the London News. There is only one brewer in congress, only one representative of the vast tobacco industry, only one cotton planter, one oil producer, one grain dealer, one fruit packer, one miller, and five members in the coal and iron industries and mines. We by contrast have 17 colliery proprietors and coal merechants, 23 brewers, distillers and wine merchants, and 18 iron masters and metal merchants. Educational has four, compared with our 13, representatives. There is not a single ship owner or builder in congress. We have 18 M. P.'s of this class. The American congress has eight merchants, three railway presidents and agents, five real estate men, one contractor, one printer, two civil engineers, one dealer in advertising signs, three "retired" gentlemen, six public officials (we have 17), two members of no occupation, and a score or so of nondescripts. There is no one in congress to correspond with our 65 gentry and land owners, our 35 peers' sons and brothers, nor, curiously, with our 13 labor represent-

THE DRUM-HEAD BUSINESS.

A Huge Long Island Industry Which Prospers in Time of War.

Few people know that more than half the banjo and drum heads sold in the United States are made on Long Island. Near the railroad station at Cold Spring is a little red building surrounded by frames, in which skins are stretched for drying, while near by is an artificial pond, with wooden sides and bottom, filled with a chemical mixture. It is an unpretentious estab lishment, but in our two wars, and in the peace between, it has fathered a great deal of noise. The business was established in 1860, and success was almost immediate. Competition was strong after the rush of war orders was over, but the business has advanced in importance until now there are but three factories in this country whose opposition can be felt. Two of these are in Brooklyn, and the other at High View, New York state, says the New York Post

New York markets furnish the salted raw skins from which the drumheads are made. The hair is removed from the skins by a chemical bath in the artificial pond, and the skins are then stretched on the rucks and dried. A thorough scraping removes any particles of fat or flesh that may have adhered to the dried skin, which is then the thickness of parchment. The skins are thorough bleached in the drving process, and are then ready for cutting into heads. During the Spanish-American war the factory was fairly swamped with orders for drumheads, 500 dozen heads often being ordered at one time. The principal demand was "for the "tenor" drum, on which a loud accompaniment to the fife or brass Instrument can be produced. During the first four months of 1898 the little

factory used up 5,143 skins. Kangaroo skins make the costlicat drumheads. When dressed, they are showy, but beyond their appearance and name they are of no greater value than heads made from calfskin. Sheepskin is used for cheap toy drums.

Quaint Castoms in Shetland.

The only part of the United Kingdom in which the old style of reckoning time is adhered to is the archipelago of Shetland, and there Sunday, January 13, was New Year's day. But Sunday being with the natives a strict dies non for business or for pleasure, the next day witnessed the high jinks incident to the occasion. These included processions of "guisers," or mummers, and the drinking of various strange toasts, such as: Heit to man and death to da grayfish,' and the health of the 12 apostles. In Shetland the remnants of the old Norse language linger to such a degree that the dialect is almost a sealed book even to Scotsmen. The last specimen of the great auk, whose eggs are now valued at something like 100 guineas apiece, was done to death there, but the little auk still retains a precarious footing on the lonely islet of Foula.— London Mail.

Beginning at the Top.

"Many a successful man begins at the top of the ladder and goes down when he has business in the cellur .- Chicago Daily News.

WOMEN WHO WORRY.

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

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 &s other people do, of course; but there lurks in her mind such a dread of asphyxiation that she is not content with!

this process. After she has turned and turned until she has assured herself that she can turn the screw no further, she provides herself with half a dozen matches. These 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 and sniffs at it to see if 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 invariably opens every box in her possession, from a powder box to a receptacle for hats, in fear and tremoling 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

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 top 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 phan-

It is a prerogative of the gentler sex to have these visions of disasters for companions. Anon a woman arises who has turned philosopher and who refuses to cross a bridge before she comes to it, but sometimes 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

GREAT CENTER OF TRADE.

Buenos Ayres, Argentine, Is the Chiof 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 whick are

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 1,600,000 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 s'pose 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 literachoor. Just look at all the books Daniel has gathered. 1 sometimes wonder how he ever done 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-

SOUTH SEA MEDICINE MEN.

They Are Alike Capable of Both Causing and Curing Disease.

Among the South Sea islanders no man falls sick or dies from natural causes. They would argue, if they were called upon to analyze their belief, 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 wish you evil. Thus far they are at one with many good people in Europe who take comfort in the thought that every visitation of sickness is a divine judgment for their sins; but savages push their logic further. Their gods do no mischief 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 heirs to avenge him.

Every skilled craft 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 him ready to remove their enemies for a consideration, he took to the business as a profession, handing his secret down to his son, and his son's son, until the trade became hereditary. A family that once acquired it took good care not to lose it by bungling, as the "wise women" sometimes did, for the art of killing by witcheraft had this decided advantage over the art of healing, that if the spell failed there were other ways-a dose 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 infecting 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 to-day and see if we wen'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 meat 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 was a subject for respect and congratulation.

The next day we asked him: "Whith-"Oh, that old woods er away?" 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 three old hunters 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 got 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 magistrates 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 toes, 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 1,300

Unmistakable.

Robbie-I think that fellow must be engaged to sister at last.

Willie - Why? "He has suddenly stopped giving me meney."-- Tit-Bits.

FOREIGN GOSSIP.

About 60,000 children are born in Norway annually. A century ago \$20 had as much pur-

chasing power in Paris as \$50 has today. In 1899 the number of Prussian

males who married before they had reached the age of 20 was 368. Among the 112,842 inhabitants of the city of Basil on December 1, 1900, there were 43,139 foreigners; that is,

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

only 61.76 were Swiss.

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 3,600,-

are gradually disappearing, says a

000,000 letters, postal cards, parcels, circulars, boxes and newspapers are delivered. Paper floors 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 feet. 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 prosecutorssometimes 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 consin Ray I leave

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 locks all his wearing apparel securely in his own clos t b fore he dares so much as to walk across the block for a cigar.

The ladies between these 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 one's own 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 fin-

There are melancholy tales told of these sales. At one held 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 the books 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. Only a few people know enough not to est too much .- Washington (Ia.)

NICKNAMES FOR PARENTS.

Some of Childhood's Many Equivsients for the Words Father and Mother.

In our own country "papa" and "mamma" have been in familiar use for some 300 years at least. They probsoly reached us from Italy, where their use was of much older date, says the London Globe. Dante uses "mamma" in the "Purgatorio." Words of this kind are often in common and familiar use long before they flad their way into the written language of books, so that it would not be easy to say when "papa" and "mamma" were first heard among us, but one of the earliest literary traces of their use is to be found in Lyly's "Euphues" (1579) an Italian story crammed with curious verbal absurdities, for the most part copied or imitated from the Italian fashions and affectations of the day. From that time instances of the use of one or the other of the words, or of both, are fairly common,

Another familiar and childish variant is "dad" or "daddy." "Dad" or "tad" as the earlier form is, is a pure Welsh word, and is of great, antiquity. "The Lord's Prayer" begins in Welsh with the word "Ein Tad," or "Ein Dad," the first word of the phrase meaning "Our." "Dad" with its derivatives "daddy" and "dada" has long been familiar in the mouths of English children, Like "pap" it was doubtless in use many years before literature took note of it; still it is found more than two centuries ago in a burlesque poem attacking James II. The doggerel contains both "dad" and "dada." Dryden, too, in a translation of the twenty-seventh Idyl, of Theoretius has the line.

But Man and Dad are pretty names to hear. There are curious differences in the present day pronunciation of both "dada" and "papa." In the country and country town districts, for instance, of northeast Ireland children of the poorer and less educated class-s all say "dada," with the accent on the second syllable. This is true, also, of some of the eastern Irish counties, Kilkenny and others, and the same pronunciation is common in South Lancashire and South Wales and in Durham. Papa, again, becomes "pappa" in Cheshire, where "mamma" is also accented on the first syllable. If we go to the United States, variations in the pronunciation of "papa" may be found in almost every state. Perhaps the commonest forms are "popa" and "momma." In Indiana, the "Hoosier state, the most, familiar is the very absurd "popsy." The maternal correlative, however, is not "mopsy," though it is hard to say why this has not followed as a matter of course.

The social vicissitudes of "papa" and "mamma" among ourselves have been curious. Their use was formerly entirely restricted to the upper classes; but they gradually filtered down till people of a class which, 60 or 70 years ago, had probably never heard the words, or, at all events, had never dreamed of using them, taught their children to say "papa" and "mamma." as being more "genteel" than father and mother, or daddy and mammy. When the change was effected, the upper classes reverted to father and mother and left their imitators to the enjoyment of the ancient baby words. George III., 140 years ago, addressed his mother as "mamma;" but royalty does not affect that mode of speech to-

Children of a larger growth have other equivalents for father and mother. Boys who think that they are too big to use the tender sounding names which were familiar to their infancy talk of the "pater" and the "mater." "Governor" is another colloquial variant which has little to rec-

Sam Weller addressed his father by that name, but Sam had quite a varied selection of epithets for his revered parent. He addresses him as "old fel" low" and "old codger," and announces him to Mr. Pickwick as the "old 'un." When the old gentleman, muffled in ample shawls, makes his appearance. Sam is taken by surprise. "Why, I wouldn't ha' believed it," he cries. "It's the old 'un." "Old one," said Mr. Pickwick. "What old one?" "My father. sir," replied Mr. Weller. "How are you, my ancient?" With which oeautiful ebullition of filial affection Mr. Weller made room on the seat beside him for the stout man, who advanced. pipe in mouth and pot in hand, to greet

A few shades worse than "governor" is "relieving officer"-a phrase affected by sons who look upon their fathers chiefly as the source of financial supply. There are other similar epithets in use, but they are neither attractive nor dignified. When daddy and mammy or papa and mamma are put aside as too childish, or are discarded for any other reason, there are no parental names which can for a moment compare with the simple but dignified, plain but beautiful Anglo-Saxon words,

A Scientific Scrap-Book. Mr. L. O. Howard, chief of the di-

vision of entomology, felt somewhat flattered at receiving one day a letter from a gentleman asking him to send a copy of his report. Mr. Howard replied promptly, and

asked to which particular report his correspondent referred. The answer came: "Am not particular which one you"

send. I want it for a scrap-book."-Youth's Companion.

A Sure Preventive.

Capital punishment was being hotly debated. "Now, I ask you," said one man, "does hanging prevent mur-

"Well," answered another quietly, "I fancy it does. Cases are very rare of a man committing murder after he has been hanged once or twice." -Tit-Bits.

RIDDLES OF SCIENCE.

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

For every question that science anawers she asks two that are apparently unanswerable. As the limits of the known in nature are pushed farther and farther away, the sphere of the unknown beyond it expands still more rapidly, so that he who looks for the riddles of science has not far to seek, 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, such as those of hypnotism or animal magnetism. * * * But there are others, perfectly well established, that are nevertheless treated with magnificent disdain. This is a pity, for if we knew their laws we should be in a position to reproduce them at will for the greater profit 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 beer, made with the same chemical elements, with the same vegetable substances and under the same conditions of environment, should differ sensibly 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 special 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 qualties 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 segetable or mineral substances that are held in suspension

"Why should a virus, inoculated in an animal, become more active for an animal of the same species if previously inoculated in an anima. 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 combina-

tions, impede them, on the contrary, when administered to excess? "Why can white-hot iron be handled with impunity when red-hot burns? The so-called 'spheroidal state' does not explain its for the

evaporation of the skin is equally active at both temperatures. "Why do the effects of their and caffein, which are composed of the same chemical elements, differ according to the temperament of in-

dividuals? "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

ward the 'infinitely little." Use of Insects in Agriculture.

facts and then direct our studies to-

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 loensts 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

L'ABEILLE DE LA NOUVELLE-ORLÉANS