Beliefonte, Pa., January I. 1909.

The Way the Plates Are Removed From the Animal.

The comb of tortoise shell has a very pale and translucent yellow, the only really valuable kind of shell.

"Many people think this pale, unmottled shell the cheaper kind," the dealer said. "Do you know why? Because the imitations are all made like

"That is one vulgar error about shell. Another is that the tortoise is killed to get its shell casing. That is as absurd an error as it would be to say a sheep was killed to get its wool.

"What is done is this: The fishermen, having caught a tortoise, tie him and then cover his back with dry grass and leaves. They set fire to this stuff, it burns slowly, and the heat causes the thirteen plates of the shell to loosen at the joints. With a knife the plates are pried off, and afterward the tortoise is set free. The base, or root, of his shell is intact and will grow their shell they would long since have become extinct.

"No, no. Every tortoise is, as it were, a farm-a shell farm. Fishermen catch him regularly and with heat and a knife gently remove his shell."-New Orleans Times-Democrat.

#### COLORS IN THE OCEAN.

Various Causes For the Different Tints of the Water.

Sky and cloud colors are often reflected in the sea, but just as the air around her waist and endeavored to has its sunset glory so water has its changing tints quite apart from mere reflection.

Olive and brown lines in the waves at sea spots of reddish brown color are noticed at one time or another. When a few drops of the discolored water are examined under a microscope myriads of minute cylinder shapjoined together in scores. It is this organism-sometimes called "sea sawdust"-which has given the name to affair, after all. the Red sea, although it also abounds in other waters. Sometimes the water far from land will be seen to be of a chocolate hue for an extent of several miles, and this is caused by millions upon millions of minute one ce! ed animals which lash themselves along, each on his erratic individual course, by means of the finest of hairlike threads of cilia .- Pearson's.

The Traces of the Beasts.

tation, as did their ancestors in prehairs are still sticking in the hardened peated at regular intervals marks the passing of a rhinoceros. Here, again. a little paint badly applied." is the pad mark of a tiger barely an hour old, and the pitted tracks of deer of all sizes and varieties surround the deeply punched holes which are the footsteps of an elephant. -- Cornhill Magazine.

Settled the Sign.

When William M. Evarts was secretary of state a new elevator man had been employed in the department who did not know Mr. Evarts by sight. In his car was a conspicuous sign to the effect that by order of the secretary of state smoking was prohibited. One day Mr. Evarts boarded the car in company with a famous senator, the latter smoking a cigar. The new man promptly touched the smoker on the elbow and said, pointing at the notice, "Can't you read that sign?" Mr. Evarts promptly tore down the offending notice and, turning to the elevator man, said: "What sign? I don't see any." The attendant, suspecting something, wisely held his peace, but he followed the pair out and asked the guard at the door who the chap with the large head was. The guard told

England's Prettiest Villages.

After a very careful survey we venture to write down the names of the six English villages that we consider the prettiest in the land so far as our own opinion and wide experience are concerned. The choice is made impartially and with full knowledge and due recognition of the claims of each to its high place. Here are the six: Bonchurch, Isle of Wight; Clovelly, Devonshire; Witchampton, Dorset; Sonning, Oxfordshire; Shere, Surrey, and Clapham, Yorkshire.-London Strand Maga-

Accomplished.

"She's got a future."

"No, but she can work her eyes better than any lady in the business, and as for wearing swell clothes-gee, she couldn't do better if she was twins!"

Very Careful. Indulgent Uncle—Jack, are you careful about your personal expenses these gays? Jack-Yes, sir. I manage, with some effort, to make them balance my income to the exact cent. - Chicago Nominating a President.

Until the constitutional amendment of 1804 the president and the vice president were voted for on the same baliot, the man with the second highest number of votes becoming vice president. The presidential electors have not always been chosen by popular

Before 1800 it was the general custom for the state legislatures to choose the electors, and it was not until 1828 that presidential electors were chosen in nearly all the states by popular vote. As late as 1876 the Colorado legislature chose the three presidential electors to represent that state. There is nothing In the constitution to prevent any state legislature naming its own electors without appeal to the people provided such a method of election is prescribed by the state laws.

From 1800 to 1824 presidential candidates were chosen by the members of congress in caucus. In 1824 the electoral college failed to make a choice from the candidates so submitted, and the matter went to the house of representatives. Four years later Tennessee's legislature nominated Andrew Jackson without any reference to the congressional caucus. His opponent, John Quincy Adams, was nominated in again. If tortoises were killed to get the old way, but that was the end of presidential nominations by congressional caucus.

Gathered Him In.

"You look very much excited, dear." he said when she entered the parlot where he was waiting for her.

"Well, I should think I ought to look excited," she answered. "I've just had the most awful argument with ma. And she began to weep hysterically. "Why, what is the matter, my darling?" he inquired as he slid an arm soothe her. "What was the argument?"

"Oh, how can I tell you? She said you were only trifling with me and that you would never propose, and I off the coast come from the muddy told her she did you a great injustice. sediment washed from the shore, as for I believed that you would propose blues arise chiefly from reflected sky. | tonight. She said you wouldn't, and ! But there are many other colors in the said you would, and we had it hot and ocean. On almost every long voyage heavy. Dear George, you will not let ma triumph over me, will you?"

"W-why, certainly not," answered George.

"I knew it, my darling," the dear girl exclaimed; "come, let us go to ma and ed algae are seen, some separate, some | tell her how much mistaken she was." And they did, and ma didn't seem to be very much broken down over the

A Little Paint Badly Applied.

The Journal des Debats in an article on "Napoleon on the Stage" tells why the play "L'Homme de Destin" was taken from the stage when its triumph was at the zenith. One evening, according to the story, the emperor, accompanied by his friend Duroc, went in disguise to the Porte St. Martin theater, where the piece was being performed, Eugene Chevalier appearing On every side in the Malay wilds as the man of destiny. They bought the traces of the beasts-which here a box, but had hardly entered it when live as scheduled, as safe from moles- the emperor broke forth in violent execrations against the "fool managers." Adamite days-are visible on tree It seemed that the decorators had left trunk, on beaten game path and on in the box pots of oil and paint, and the yielding clay at the drinking into these the emperor had stepped. places by the hurrying stream. Here "Wild with rage," says the writer, "he a belt of mud nine feet from the rushed from the house and, to make ground shows that an elephant has matters worse, was recognized in the rubbed his itching back against the lobby. No paper mentioned the incirough bark of a tree, and, see, coarse dent, but by order of the emperor the play was never produced again, and clay. There a long, sharp scratch re- Chevaller never appeared again as the man of destiny-and all on account of

Passengers as Bouncers.

A passenger in a full railway car riage in England has a perfect legal right to push away any one else who tries to get into it. This decision was given at Marylebone police court when a man complained that he was pushed out of a carriage at Bishop's road station by another passenger, who said the car was full. "It is the duty of conductors," said the court, "to see that the trains are not overcrowded. They are perfectly entitled to use reasonable force to prevent any one from boarding cars when they are full. If they fail to avail themselves of this right the passengers are entitled to act for themselves."

The Secret of Success. The motto of success was given in

this tale, told at a banquet: A Swede among the miners in the west was noted for always striking pay dirt. His fellows thought that there must be some secret to the unusual success of the Swede and questioned him as to how he always succeeded in finding the spot where the gold cropped

"Vell. Ay don't know ef Ay can tell anytang 'bout dat," answered Ole. "Ay out for skins in which holes have been only know dat Ay yust keep on diggin'."-Milwaukee Free Press.

A man recently entered a restaurant and ordered a steak. When the waiter served him with it the customer said, "I'm afraid you'll have to take it back, for I find I've come out without my"-"Purse." of course interrupted the

"No," replied the man, "my false

More Trouble. "What's the trouble now?" demanded the janktor. "More heat?" "No," said the tenant of the latest tkyscraper. "but I want these clouds

pushed away from my windows."-

Louisville Courier-Journal. Not Like the Play. "Life ain't like the plays."

"How now?" "When I go calling no housemaid ever tells me the family history while there's a man living two doors from us making passes at the furniture with a who has a name the same color as feather duster."-St. Louis Republic.

MAGIC GLASS.

A Curious Mirror That May Be Made Transparent.

One of the most curious inventions of this age is what is called platinized glass. A piece of glass is coated with an exceedingly thin layer of a liquid charged with platinum and then raised to a red heat. The platinum becomes united to the glass in such a way as to form an odd kind of mirror.

The glass has not really lost its transparency, and yet if one places it against a wall and looks at it he sees his image as in an ordinary looking glass. But when light is allowed to come through the glass from the other side, as when it is placed in a window, it appears perfectly transparent, like ordinary glass.

By constructing a window of platinized glass one could stand close behind the panes in an unilluminated ed my youthful hopes. There was anroom and behold clearly everything going on outside, while passersby looking at the window would behold only a fine mirror or set of mirrors in which their own figures would be reflected. while the person inside remained invisible.

In France various tricks have been contrived with the aid of this glass. In one a person, seeing what appears to be an ordinary mirror, approaches it to gaze upon himself. A sudden change in the mechanism sends light through the glass from the back. whereupon it instantly becomes transparent, and the startled spectator finds himself confronted by some grotesque figure that had been hidden behind the magic glass .- New York Tribune.

## SPEED LAWS OF 1816.

Coaches Going Nine Miles an Hour Frightened the English.

The outcry daily growing louder in England against the excessive speed of motor cars lends interest to the following passage from the Annual Register for 1816:

A new coach was started in the spring to run to Brighton, a distance of fifty-two miles, in six hours. \* \* \* This, however, became alarming, parof Newington, through which it passed. and the parish officers there caused information to be laid against the driv ers for driving furiously on the publiroad so as to endanger the lives of hi majesty's subjects.

The result of this is to be read in Mansard's "Parliamentary Reports."

June 10, 1816. The attorney general moved for leave to bring in a bill the object of which was the protection of the lives and limbs of his majesty's subjects by correcting the enormous abuses of stagecoach drivers. Within these few days it would be hardly credible what a number of applications he had received on this subject.

Some accounts were enough to freeze one with horror. A gentleman of veracity had informed him that on Tuesday, May 21, at 5:30, the Trafalgar and Regulator coaches set off from Manchester and got to Liverpool at 8:20, doing this journay in two hours fifty minutes, at the rate of twelve miles an hour .- New York Sun.

Fiji Islanders' Sugar Cane Dance. A very curious and exceedingly clever dance may be witnessed in Fiji called by the natives "the sugar cane meke," or sugar cane dance. It rep resents the growth of the sugar cane. In the first figure the dancers squat low on the ground, shake their heads. shut their eyes and murmur slowly and softly an unintelligible sentence. Gradually they all stand up together, growing taller and taller, and as they "grow" they wave their arms and tremble all over from ankle to head. like the tall, tasseled cane waving in the wind, and still they keep on chanting louder and louder. The last figure represents a series of combats meant to symbolize the exactions of the chiefs, who compel the "kaisi." willing and unwilling, to come and cut

Ambulance Field Examination. Scene-Hamilton South Haugh; soldier supposed to have been wounded is brought to surgeon's tent by bear ers. Bearer (reporting)-Severe scalp wound, sir, accompanied with insensibility. Surgeon-Well, what have you done? Bearer-Dressed the wound, sir. and gave him a little whisky and wa ter. Surgeon-Whisky and water! How did you expect an insensible man to swallow that? Bearer-He axed for't sir.-London Illustrated Bits.

their crops.-London Standard.

Tricks of the Trade. Buyers of patent leather should look neatly covered with a piece of this paper which is varnished over, the unfinished side being puttied up with a mixture of glue and leather dust .-Shoe Manufacturers' Monthly.

As diamond cuts diamond and one hone smooths a second, all parts of intellect are whetstones to each other. and genius, which is but the result of their mutual sharpening, is character too .- Alfred Tennyson.

Nor "The Long Green." Hicks-They say that the blind can distinguish colors by the sense of Jiggs-What did Titewadd do? Riggs touch. Wicks-That's nothing. One doesn't have to be blind to feel blue .-Boston Transcript.

A Comparison. In a certain store there is a salesman named Green. Small Clarence learned his name and said, "Say, Mr. Green,

Belated Revenge.

"Once when I was a small lad on my father's farm in Ohio," said a judge, "a peddier got me to help him make some repairs to his wagon. I did so without any thought of pay, but when the vehicle was mended as he drove off he told me the next time he came by our house on his rounds he would bring me a gift in the shape of a copy of 'Robinson Crusoe,' a book I had long coveted. How I waited for him to come again and how my heart fell when he failed to bring me the volume! Again and again he promised, but never made good his word. Years passed, and I grew to manhood, but the memory of that cruel disappointment never vanished from my mind. I was made a school trustee of my district, and one day a man applied for a position as teacher. In him I recognized the peddler who had blastother candidate for the job, and mine was the deciding vote. Nothing in life ever gave me more pleasure than in voting against the ex-peddler, who for his deception on a boy lost a good place. It was perhaps carrying the spirit of revenge too far, but there are not many who would have done otherwise."-Baltimore American.

A Skater's Daring. Few feats of skating have ever excelled the exploit of one of Napoleon's officers performed shortly after the fight at Jena in 1806. The emperor dispatched an officer to Marshal Mortier requiring him to seize certain important towns without delay. When the officer arrived at the mouth of the Elbe, where the river is seven and onehalf miles wide, he was threatened with serious loss of time. The river was just covered with ice; therefore to row over was out of the question. He could not cross by the nearest bridge without going twenty miles out of his way on roads heavy with snow, and he grudged the time that would thus be wasted. So he resolved to skate across the thin, freshly formed ice. Had he tried walking he would have sunk at once, but by skimming along on his skates at the top of his speed he got over the river both dry and unticularly in the populous neighborhood harmed. By this daring if dangerous deed he saved six hours, did what Napoleon bade him do and won great credit for his bold and clever exploit.

> London Bakers In 1310. In 1310 we find the following Bow bakeresses accused of selling halfpenny loaves deficient in weight: Sarra Foting, Christina Terrice, Godiyeva Foting, Matilda de Bolingtone, Christina Prichet, Isabella Sperling, Alice Pegges, Johanna de Countebrigge and Isabella Ponveste. One wonders why the husbands were not summoned. In a similar case in 1316, when Agnes Foting's bread was seized, it was "adjudged that her bread should be forfeited and given to the prisoners in Neugate because her husband did not come to avow (own) the bread." Are we to assume that in the absence of the husbands the bread was merely forfeited without the infliction of a fine? An indication of the importance of the breadmaking business is also found in an enactment of the reign of Henry III. to the effect that "every cart of Bremble (Brombley-by-Bow) or Stevenhethe (Stepney) that comes into the city with bread shall pay each day a halfpenny."-St. James' Gazette.

> A Tardy Act of Justice. Marriages between English actresses and men of a high social position be gan in the eighteenth century, if no earlier. There was Lavinia Fenton, the Polly Peachum of Gay's "Beggar's Opera," who became Duchess of Bolton; there was Miss Farren, who married Lord Derby; also Miss Brunton became Lady Craven not long before Lord Thurlow married Miss Bolton. Earliest of the list, though, comes the Earl of Peterborough, who married Anastasia Robinson, the singer, and kept the marriage secret until a few days before his death in St. James' palace, when he assembled his relatives and friends and publicly acknowledged the woman "to whom he owed the best and happiest hours of his life," a tardy act of justice that caused the lady to swoon away.

How Ledgers Got Their Name. On the authority of the best lexicographers "ledger" is an adaptation of a once common word, "ligger," signifying any large book suited better for lying on a desk than for carrying about. Sometimes this was applied to a large account book, cartulary, or the like, frequently a great breviary for use in church, as distinct from a "portas," or small one, carried by a "book bosom priest." "Coucher" is another old synonym for "ligger," the foregoer of the now general "ledger."

Old Theory Confirmed. Tommy, whose nose was out of joint, had been permitted to see the new baby in its bath.

"Where's his other leg?" he asked. eying the infant with strong disnavor. "It's doubled up under him." explained the nurse. "Yes!" he snorted. "Jes' like de

blamed stork what brung 'im!"-Puck.

Saved Her Life.

Riggs-Hear about Mrs. Titewadd? Told her husband she would kill herself if he didn't buy her a new hat. -Got estimates on funerals, found he could save \$2 by buying the hat and saved her life.—Baltimore American.

Stage Paint. Painting the face on the stage is a barbarous custom come down to us from the age of oil lamps and candles. With gas and electric light and opera glasses for the remote seats in the house it is not needed .- London Mask.

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