

Bellefonte, Pa., June 9, 1911.

In Pitt's Day the Speaker Kept Him-

self Stimulated With Porter. The speaker of the English house of commons holds an enviable position today, but it was not until comparatively modern times that the speaker ceased to be a partisan, nor was his position always one of its present dignity. In the time of Pitt the speaker was accustomed to solace himself with a draft of porter:

Like sad Prometheus fastened to the rock, In vain he looks for pity to the clock, vain the effects of strengthening porter

And nods to Belamy for fresh supplies. Manners were somewhat looser in those days than they are now. Pitt himself on one occasion showed signs of a too copious libation to the gods, and this gave rise to the celebrated couplet:

I cannot see the speaker, Hal. Can you? What! Cannot see the speaker? I see two. It is said that on one occasion Mr. Disraell arrived at the house somewhat "under the influence" and was so indiscreet as to attack Mr. Gladstone then prime minister, upon some point of foreign policy. Mr. Gladstone replied witheringly that "the right honorable gentleman evidently has sources of inspiration from which her majesty's ministers are debarred."-Argonaut.

## AN HOUR OF THRILLS.

Shooting the Rapids of the Hodzu River, In Japan.

The rapids on the Hodzu river near Kyoto must fill even the most blase of tourists with excitement. A train from Kyoto climbs slowly and painfully upward until finally it deposits its passengers at a quaint little siding.

From here, says the Wide World Magazine, one goes to the river bank and embarks in a rude, flat bottomed boat, which is pushed out by four men into the middle of a broad river, reed edged and sleepy.

For a few minutes one glides dreamfly along; then, rounding a curve, one suddenly hears the roar of water, and the boat tears down a rapid, just missing the rocks on each side. The high banks race past, death appears imminent, and then, with one mad swirl, it is all over and the boat is on the quiet, unruffled stream once more.

This happens again and again for about an hour. At first one's whole mind is filled with the conviction that an accident must happen, but gradually comes a delicious feeling of safety as one notes the marvelous skill these men show in piloting the boat through the seething rapids and one is able to appreciate the beauty of the scene.

Lucien Bonaparte and Wellington. in disgrace with the emperor, was said respect they are like deer.-New York to be at least as able as his brother Press and to have more decision of character. I have heard it said that it was he who saved Napoleon on the 18th Brumaire, and, in fact, I had heard him greatly praised. My actual meet- George R. Sims. Apart from the exing with him, as often happens, did citement of having to do a bit of not come up to my expectations. He Blondin, with the edge of a canal for seemed to me cringing in his manners and false in his look. He is like Napoleon in the outward shape of his features-not at all in expression. I I love to see the little Dutch boy of saw him last year, at a concert at the six smoking his clay pipe or his cigar Duchesse de Canizzaro's, beg her to as he clings to his mamma's skirt. introduce him to the Duke of Wel- There is something at once novel and lington, who was present. I saw him startling in finding Dutch cheese and cross the room and come up bowing a penny bun placed in front of every and scraping to be presented to the victor of Waterloo, whose reception was as cold as such baseness deserved. -From Memoirs of Duchesse de Dino.

An Ancient Rain Gauge. The credit of inventing the rain gauge has always been given to Castelli, a contemporary of Galilei, who made one in 1639, but the director of the Korean meteorological observatory, Dr. Y. Wada, has shown that it medical examining board contains the is due to a Korean king. The latter, King Sejo, in the year 1442 caused an instrument of bronze to be constructed to measure the rain, and it is set out in the historical records of Korea that this was a vase fifteen inchdeep and seven inches in diameter. placed upon a pillar. An example of this was placed in the observatory. and each time the rain fell the officials were instructed to measure the height and to make it known to the king. Other instruments were distributed to the provinces and cantons, and

Queer Anatomy.

were sent to court.-Knowledge.

the results of the observations made

Curious ideas about anatomy prevail in the press. It was stated the other day that a man was "shot in the ticket office." Another paper says a man was "shot in the suburbs." "He kissed her passionately upon her reappearance," "She whipped him upon her return," "He kissed her back," "Mr. Jones walked in upon her invitation." "She seated herself upon his entering," "We thought she sat down upon her being asked," "She fainted upon his depar-

A Regular Hamlet Player. "Did you ever play in 'Hamlet?' " inquired a theatrical manager of a recent acquisition to his company. "Ever!" exclaimed the newcomer. "Why, I've played in every hamlet of Great Britain!"-London Tit-Bits.

Like a Man.
"Did Hawkins take his punishment like a man?" asked Lollerby. "You bet he did," laughed Dubbleigh. "He hollered and yelled and used strong language to beat creation." Harper's Weekly.

## PLAYED A SHELL GAME.

A Parliamentary Joke by a New South

Wales Solon. Australia once had a great public oke, which was played openly in the New South Wales state parliament by a member who afterward became at

torney general. A bill had been introduced to protect native flowers from ruthless destruction. The honorable member uprose and sympathized. He informed the introducer of the bill-a somewhat pompous gentleman-that he heartly approved. But why these invidious distinctions? The bill protected-and he quoted all the botanical names in

But why were other flowers equally deserving neglected? Why were-and here he reeled off a long list of the Latin names for cockles, mussels, oysters, etc .- why were these sweet flowers to be blighted in their bloom by being plucked by any prowling excursionist who wanted something in his buttonhole?

The introducer of the bill promptly offered to extend the list to include these. So half the shellfish on the coast, including the periwinkle, were added to the flowers worthy of protec-

The officials of the house discovered the hoax next day and set it right. But the joke was too good to be kept quiet, and all Australia chuckled at the expense of the pompous legislator. -London Answers.

## DON'T MIND BIG NOISES.

But Slight, Rustling Sounds Make Gi-

raffes Tremble With Fear. Among the curious characteristics of the giraffe is its strange indifference to loud noises as contrasted with its peculiar "scariness" with reference to slight sounds. Noisy sounds, like that of a man walking near in hobnailed boots, the giraffe does not appear to notice, but should it be approached by a woman whose skirts give out but the slightest rustle the sound thereof causes the giraffe to start up with pricked ears and eyes distended in

Officials of a zoological institution situated near a canal, tell of a curious instance of this peculiarity of giraffes After a terrible explosion of gunpowder on a barge on the canal the keepers were astonished to observe that the giraffes took little notice of the tremendous blast. They jumped to their feet, but almost at once lay down again when they found that nothing extraordinary had happened in their inclosure. But were a keeper at night to creep along outside that inclosure in his stocking feet the queer beasts would exhibit such terror that one would imagine them about to dash themselves in terror against the fences.

Giraffes fear the lurking foe, and a ble bang scares them hardly at all. To Lucien, whom I had never seen be- them the faint, rustling sound is a toore his arrival in England, as he was ken of the greatest danger. In that

> Many Things Different In Holland. Holland is to me one of the most interesting countries in Europe, writes your tight rope, at intervals of a few minutes all day long, the Dutch themselves furnish you never ending study. guest at the breakfast table. In a land where a public company is a Maatschappij and nearly every house of restauration announces that the thirsty traveler can there obtain "Tapperij, Slitterij and Slemp," there is always something to amuse you.

Oath of the Turkish Doctor. The oath which young doctors take in Turkey when they come before the

following pledge: "That when I am called at the same time by two different patients, the one rich and the other poor, I will accept the call of the poor without taking into consideration the money offered and will do my best for his treatment, and that I will never decline to answer any call, day or night, during the reign of common diseases or of an epidemic of contagious dis-

Keeping His Word. "Henry, you owe me \$5. You remem ber that bet you made me last week that you wouldn't smoke any more for a month. Well, I saw you walking down the street last night smoking a big cigar."

"I'm not smoking any more; I'm simply smoking the usual amount."-

Out of Place.

Aunt Prisms-I am shocked at you, Maude. You permitted young Mr. Jones to kiss you. Maude—He only just touched me on the nose, auntle. Aunt Prisms-It was quite out of place, my dear. Maude-He knew it was, auntie. But you came in so suddenly, you see.

Fishing Luck.
"Have any luck on your fishing "Yes. Counting those that got away and those we threw back, we almost

got seven."-Detroit Free Press.

Her Criticism. "I wish Fritz would write his figures plainer. I can't possibly tell from his letter whether it is 1,000 or 10,000 kisses that he sends me."-Fliegende Blatter.

She Didn't, but He Did. and He Must Have Been a Brave Man.

The bravest man in New York made his appearance in a Broadway store one day last week. He carried an enormous bandbox, which contained an enormous hat, on which the man wanted what he considered an enormous amount of money refunded. The man was pretty mad, and while looking for some one who had the authority to negotiate the transaction he talked loud enough for everybody to hear.

"My wife bought this hat," he said. "She doesn't need it. She has already bought three hats this season. She paid \$35 for this one. She has never worn it. It just came home last night. I can't afford to throw all that money away, and I want you to take the hat back. She wouldn't bring it down, so I undertook the job myself."

"By the side of that man Napoleon was a cringing coward," said the young woman who had made the sale Imagine him flouncing into a Parisian millinery shop with a hat that he didn't want Josephine to buy! He couldn't have done it. Very few men can. Once in a long while some poor New Yorker with the courage of desperation in his heart returns merchandise which he cannot afford to buy for his wife, and his audacity upsets the whole store for a month."-New York

# THEY LIKE SHARP FOOD.

Lions Gobble Up Porcupines, and Com-

els Eat Spiny Cactus. A note in the London Field draws attention to lions that eat porcupines. It would appear that an animal protected by such powerful spines should be quite secure from attack. Yet, if we may trust the account given, it appears to be a habit on the part of the lion and not an isolated occurrence. Captain Dumbell had been told by a native hunter that the lion was in the habit of eating porcupines. And this has been confirmed by two English sportsmen. V. Kirby, for example. has taken a porcupine's head from the stomach of a lioness. Others relate that it is not uncommon to find lions with porcupine quills sticking all over their noses, faces and paws. It seems to argue some indifference to pain on the part of the lion, as well as a fancy for porcupine's flesh.

Compare this with the case of the camel, which a distinguished traveler describes as calmly chewing up a very spiny plant with the blood dripping from its mouth! The cattle in some of the arid parts of America, again. browse on that spiny cactus. And in some parts of the English coast the horses browse on the prickly sea holly. while the donkey's partiality for thistles is well known. Incidentally such cases seem to show that spines in nature are not such efficient protectors as some have supposed.

Sleight of Hand Poisoning. A very curious item in toxicological

lore I chanced to light upon, wrote George Augustus Sala in one of his etters, may be called the feat of polsoning by sleight of hand. You were lealous of a lady, and you wished to kill her. Well, you asked her to lunch, and you caused a very nice peach to be served at dessert. You cut the fruit with a golden knife, one side of he blade of which was endued with a eadly pol-m. You presented the polned han the peach to the lady. who ate ...th much relish and then dropped wn dead. The wholesome half you are yourself and laughed in your sleeve and went on slicing more peaches for the ladies of whom you were jealous till you were found out and broken on the wheel. Aye. there's the rub! What high old times we might have, to be sure, but for that plaguy contingency of being found

Her Drawing Powers. Pat and his little brown mare were familiar sights to the people of the town of Garry. The mare was lean, blind and lame, but by dint of much coaxing Pat kept her to the harness. One day while leading her to water he had to pass a corner where a crowd of would be sports had congregated. Thinking to have some amusement at Pat's expense, one called out:

the real goods. How much is that mare of yours able to draw?" "Begorra," said Pat, "I can't say exactly, but she seems to be able to drawh the attenshun of ivery fool in town."-Housekeeper.

"Hello there, Pat! I'm looking for

Change of Life.

There are two great changes which come to women. The first is the change from girlhood to womanhood. The sec ond marks the termination of the period alloted to maternity. During both these periods of change there is need of care. Almost always Nature needs some help in the re-adjustment of the physical functions. Dr. Pierce's Favorite Prescription gives to Nature just the help she needs in these crisis. It heals diseases of the delicate organs, nourishes the nerves, and increases physical vitality and vigor. It cures the aches and pains common at such times and induces a healthy condition of body, which gives a natural appetite and refreshing sleep. There is alcohol in "Favorite Prescription," and it is absolutely free from opium, cocaine and all other narcotics. It makes weak women strong, sick women well.

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### Travelers Guide.

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