#### ated to Feel Comfortable and Dress for the Occasion.

"Good day, lady," he said, with the oft, insinuating tone of the profession-I mendicant; "I hopes as yer well this

"Take your muddy feet off that door-

"Certainly. Allus willin' ter 'blige s

"I haven't any cold meat."

"Nor any loft over coffee." "It's kind of an off day in the com-

"I s'pose you'd be willing to eat some is if I had it on hand and didn't know sow to get rid of it. But I haven't

"I suppose, then, that you'd like to tave me give you my husband's Prince

"No'm. That ain't exactly what vant, but you're warm. I'm so loaded town with things ter eat what the ady furder back gimme that the ides at eatin' is positively unpleasant ter me. An' de lady I seen jes' before that and ter give some of 'em away cos l lidn't have enough Saratoga trunks an' dress-suit cases ter carry 'em around in. There's only three articles t need now, an' I don't guess I've struck the right house fur anything so ap-ter-date. I may be down in the world, but I likes ter preserve the proprieties of gents' attire. I've been in cendin' ter take a wheelin' trip through he country-

"Do you mean to say that you ride a

"Not exactly on a bicycle. I see de bleycle's two wheels an' go 'em two better. This trip is on the truck under a freight car, but it's wheelin' jes' the same. An' I've put off startin' fur more'n three days now in hopes somebody in this community 'd be up-terdate enough ter have a pair o' knickerbockers an' some golf stockings the they could gimme so's I'd feel com-'ortable an' dressed fur the occasion. -Detroit Free Press.

The young woman from Boston was at the table in a railroad restaurant in the far West, and, when she essayed to cut the steak with which she had been served, she discovered that what she needed was a higher education in athletics. After four or five ineffectual attempts to dissect it, she called to the

"Cahn't you," she asked, "give me a bit of steak which is characterized by less tenacity of tissue?"

The waiter looked staggered and a cowboy across the table looked up. "I didn't quite ketch, mum," said the waiter, bending forward with his hand

"I said"-and there was a shade of annoyance in her tone—"that I desired a portion of steak in which the coherence of the molecules was not so ap-

"Oh," stammered the waiter, and he atood fixed with his mouth open ir

The young woman became embar-

"Here," snorted the gallant cowboy. coming to the rescue, with a sounding whack on the table, "git a move or you; what the lady wants is a piece of meat that ain't so tough she can't stick per purty tooth into it. See?" and the young woman actually smiled as the vaiter hurried away.-Detroit Free

There was an anxious, doubtful look on the young fellow's face, as he paced un and down the aisle in a Broadway eable car the other evening. There were half a dozen seats, yet the young man took no notice of them, and confinued his restless pacing to and fro. "Seats in front, plenty of 'em," said the conductor, brusquely,

The young man continued his patrol A benevolent old gentleman pulled him by the coat and said: "Here's a sent, sir." The young man shook his

A newcomer entered the car, and, being an altogether officious person. pointed to the vacant seats. The young man still walked.

"Hello, Henry!" exclaimed a dapper young fellow, an acquaintance of the peripatetic, who just then bounced into the car. "Why don't you sit down? What in the world makes you walk up and down like that?"

"Conscientious scruples," said the young pedestrian. "You see, I promised her that I would walk down to the forist and get some roses for her. 1 would much have preferred to ride, you know. It's hot and dusty, and so I'm compromising with myself by walking und riding at the same time

He turned on his heel and passed up the car.-New York Herald.

#### A Gifted tienius.

The new reporter had admitted that Ais knowledge of newspaper work was alight, but as the staff was short he was taken on. That he was a good man he showed that evening in a style peculiarly his own.

He had been taken a late supper at in all night restaurant, and some little controversy arose while he was there. Grasping at once the fact that this was a news item, he stopped not to witness the trouble, but rushed to the office.

"Say," grasped he, out of breath, "there's a man trying to kill the waiter yer at the Australian restaurant. ight away."-Louisville Courier-Jour-

The Cop's Presence of Mind. We have great cause to be thankful br the efficiency of the police. The collowing incident well illustrates their mvariable presence of mind: A small boy happened to be crossing a bridge just as another small boy fell into the A policeman asked the boy on me bridge whether he could swin. The bay said he could, and with great presmee of mind the officer thereupon dropped him over the balustrade into the river. After a hard struggle boy who was dropped in succeeded in securing the one who fell in. The podeeman has not yet Been promoted for

nis bravery .- San Francisco Wave.

THE TARIT

It is not essential to keep growing chickens fat. Clean the nests regularly to keep them free of vermin.

If the hens lay soft-shelled eggs give them plenty of gravel. To make most profitable fowls, they

should be fattened rapidly. The food must always be varied enough to keep the chickens with a

good appetite. Too much soft or cooked food is not good for fowls. They need some employment for the gizzard.

Overfeeding is expensive. It not only costs more for the feed, but the hens get too fat and lay no eggs.

Cockerels too young and small to sell for broilers now may be made profitable by caponizing a little later on. It does not pay to raise scrub stock. Sell the scrubs and get well-bred ani-

mals. This is a good year to make the change, while prices are low. We do not advise any one to caponize young turkeys. They are too tender and the operation is attended with

great risk and little benefit results from It. The early-hatched pullets are now large enough to permit of intelligent selection. The culls should be disposed of, and the best reserved for laying

and breeding. There is one crop which is nearly alrays below the demand in supply, and that is popcorn. This country uses it largely, but does not grow enough, alhough it sells at a good price.

Spread the onions on shelves in thin ayers and do not disturb them until they are wanted for use. Onions may breeze and thaw several times during he winter without injury if they are not handled.

A superb hog feed, for any age and almost any condition, says an exchange, is corn, wheat and oats of equal parts, coarsely chopped and fed any way the hogs like it-cooked or raw, soaked or dry.

In Russia sunflowers are made special crops, the seed being ground and used for cattle, the same as cottonseed meal, and such food is not only wholesome, but gives excellent result? n milk and butter.

As soon as the rot is observed in the egg plant, writes an authority, "dust he spot with air-slacked lime, and in t day or two the rot will have dried ip: the spot disappears, and the fruit will mature in good condition. A fruit grower thinks one of the best

ways of manuring strawberries or other small fruits is to scatter broadcast beween the rows, and then work into the foll with a cultivator, taking care ilw. is to have it reasonably well fined.

Beets, turnips and carrois keep in tood condition in winter if stored in nounds, and apples should remain in tood condition all through the winter n a dry cellar. The chief obstacle is tot the cold, but usually too much warmth.

A grape vine or any other kind of a line, trained on an arbor over the cisern or well does not keep the water coller during warm weather, but furnishes a very inviting shade to the armer who comes in hot from the field and thirsting for a cool drink.

The gain from fall plowing is that he naked surface is easily made into mellow bed by cultivation, if the winter is just right; but this gain is often offset by too great a loss of ferit is far better if the field is covered by a protecting sod.

An old broncho buster gives the folowing as a sure way to cure a horse of "The way we fix a kicking forse is to tie one of his forelegs with rope to the hind leg on the other Then, as soon as he starts to tick, he jerks his front leg off the ground and goes down in a heap. or three doses of that kind will cure the worst case you can find.

The outcry in Europe against diseased beef is not sustained by statisiles. It has been found that one out of every seven cattle shipped from Ausralia to England died while in transit that of those shipped from South America one out of every twenty-five iled, while of those that were shipped from the United States and Canada, but one in every 200 died in transit This would indicate that our cattle surpass the rest of the world in excellence of condition, and that any discriminaion against us is practically without easonable foundation.

Cranberries-The Spicy Fall Berry,

In cooking cranberries, never add they have cooked long mough for the skins to crack open Then put it in liberally and let the same cook for fifteen minutes longer. Allow them to cook down, after the sugar is put in, until they are nearly ready to jelly; the ideal cramberry sauce does not consist of one cramberry floating in a tablespoonful of hot pinkish water. Many appetizing desserts can be made from cranberries. Dumplings made as apple dumplings, with a handful of sweetened cranberries in place of apples, are very nice. A delicious pudding may be made with a layer of bread crumbs, then one of cranberries, then sugar, bits of butter and the favorite splee; then another layer of bread and cramberries until the pudding dish is full. Have the top layer of the bread crumbs. Pour over the whole a cupful or more of fruit juice into which a beaten egg has been stirred, and let the pudding bake until the eranberries are done. Serve with swee oudding sauce.-The House Queen.

#### Pneumatic Tires.

Pneumatic tires and motor carriages may together solve the good road problem in a very unexpected way by rendering stone or other hard roads innecessary. The horseless carriage s surely coming, and as it is estimated that two-thirds of the wear of roads is saused by horses' feet, the motor will make a great saving. Then again some French engineers from careful tests have learned that the pneumatic tire saves from 30 to 50 per cent. of the power necessary to haul a load. This m roads covered with snow, mud and sitish. A properly grained gravel road or even dirt may answer the purposes of the future vehicle.

#### LARGEST BRANDY STILL.

California Roasts an Establishment Turning Out 15,000 Gallons Dally.

The largest brandy still in the world is at the El Pinal vineyard in San Joaquin County, not far from Stockton. Part of it has been built about four years and the other part was finfshed only a short time ago. As is well known, the El Pinal vineyard has always made a specialty of brandy and sweet wines. It was the Intention of the proprietors to do this when they went into business, and for that reason they had the largest still built that was ever put up. That was, as has been stated, about four years ago. and even then it was ahead of anything in existence. It could produce more brandy in twenty-four hours than any other still in the world, and it has not been surpassed since. But even that was not enough to supply all the alcohol needed in their business, so another still was built and made to work in connection with the original one. The two are really one still, as they are used, and have about three times the capacity of any other still in the world.

This enormous machine is located in a building by itself, and part of the year is kept running day and night. It is very complicated in its workings, so that a description of that part of it cannot be attempted here. It will be sufficient to state that the grape juice or wine is pumped from vats to a tank on top of the hill. From there it sim ply passes through a series of heated chambers in the form of a vapor and comes out in the shape of brandy,

It can be tested in the different chambers and the change noted. In the first chamber it is little more than warm wine, and it gradually gets stronger and stronger until it is sharp to taste. From the time the wine leaves the tank until it comes out as grape brandy only ten minutes is occupied. In the old method of distilling it used to take about three hours

In appearance the largest brandy still in the world is simply a conglom-eration of tanks, pipes and boilers. The capacity of this still is enough to make a person wonder what becomes of all its products. When running full time it can convert 15,000 gallons of wine into brandy in a day. This will make about 4,000 gallons every twentyfour hours, or enough to keep about 40,000 men in a state of intoxication during that time. In a month there would be enough of brandy on hand to intoxicate 1,700,000 men, or about the entire population of New York. But, as it happens, very little of this brandy is sold as brandy. It is used to fortify sweet wines, so that they will be in condition to keep until ready to send to market. The alcohol acts as a pre-servative of the grape juice the same as it would of anything else. It keeps it from turning sour .- San Francisco

#### Wagner as a Hero.

Never was there a sorrier hero than Wagner, this selfish voluptuary who was content to gratify his luxurious tastes at the expense of his friends, out was too independent to feel grateful for their sacrifices; whose self-indulgence was so much of a disease that he smoked in order not to miss a sen-sation which others enjoyed, and was capable of driving his host into the streets in the small hours of the morning to replenish his snuff-box; and of whom his ardent champion, the late Ferdinand Praeger, has to confess that while he was ready enough to enter into a quarrel he "always moved away turn until May 31 by regular trains. when it looked like coming to blows." gner's callous neglect of his first wife, who had been his slave through years of penury qualified by prodigality, provoked the remonstrances of his friends, and forced Mr. Praeger to say: I can testify that Wagner suffered severely from thoughtlessness." shabbier letter was ever penned than the one he wrote to Mr. Praeger when he found that the long-suffering woman had confided her troubles to their common friend. "How could she have expected," he plaintively asks, "that I was to be schackled and fettered as any ordinary, common, cold mortal? My inspirations carried me into a sphere where she could not follow, and then the exuberance of my heated enthusiasm was met by my cold douche." The familiar plea that there should be one law for genius and another for "common mortal" is not intolerable when urged by the apologetic hero-worshipper; from the hero himself it comes with but ill grace, "I liked every luxury-she fettered me he bleats of the woman who had striven so hard to save him from the ruin threatened by his colossal exravagance.—Blackwood's Magazine,

#### Average.

A very common word, to be sure, and well understood as to its applica-But after fair translation of its old French body-"aver"-into English, and only "horse" is found, and the word becomes "horsage," the change tends to confusion. None the less, "horsage" and "average" are identical, since in the old-time French an "aver" was a horse. It was also a horse in the Scotch dictionaries, and in one of Burns' poems, "A Dream, he alludes to a horse as a "noble aiver." In olden times in Europe a tenant was bound to do certain work for the lord of the manor-largely in carting grain and turf-horse-work; the yearly settlement of accounts the just proportion of the large and small work performed was estimated according to the word done by 'avers' (horses); hence our common word "average,"

The First Photograph.

A French dealer, in "Notes and Querhas discovered that Fenelon, in to continue the payments. foreshadowed the photograph, and that a less known author, Tiphaigne, in 1760, in his odd book called 'Giphautie," described the photograph process very closely. He said: rays of light reflected from objects make a picture on all polished surfaces —the retina of the eye, glass, etc. Now we have sought to fix this fugitive image; we have invented a substance, very delicate, viscous and quick to dry and harden; by means of this then back this up with a piece of cloth, and present it to the objects we have paid the printer. wish to point."

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## SAPOLIO

No district in America presents, during the Winter season, so many varied attractions as the state of Florda. Besides its delightful climate, which to one escaping from the cold and unhealthful changes of the North nently a land of sport and pleasure. Along its eleven hundred miles of saltfresh-water lakes are fish of almost migratory tribes common to Northern waters to the tatpon, pompano, and others of a more tropical character. the angler find a greater variety of game or better sport.

Here also the most enthusiastic nunter finds satiety. Deer, turkeys, bears, panthers and wild cats roam at large through the more sparsely settled regions, while birds of all kinds may be found in abundance throughout the state. The more novel sport of alligator and manatee hunting may also be indulged in by the more adventurous tourist.

With its matchless climate, its orange groves, its rivers and lakes, its forest, Florida presents unrivalled atthe explorer.

To this attractive State the Pennranged four personally-conducted tours during the season of 1897, leaving by special train January 26, February 9 and 23, and March 9. The first three tours will admit of a sojourn of two weeks in this delightful land; tickets for the fourth tour will be valid to re-

Rates for the round trip, \$50.00 from New York, \$48.00 from Philadelphia, and proportionate rates from other points.

For tickets, itineraries, and other information, apply to ticket agents, special booking offices, or address Geo. W. Boyd, Assistant General Passenger Agent, Broad Street Station, Philadelphia.

#### No Patents in Japan.

No patent is granted to a foreigner in Japan. No foreign inventor, by applying through a Japanese citizen. can obtain a patent except by fraud If a patent were obtained by a false representation that the Japanese citizen was the inventor, and it was discovered that he was not, the patent would be at once cancelled. It is precisely the same with trade marks and designs-there is no registration and no protection. The result is that all goods of foreign produce and manufacture, of which the label is worth copying, can be bought all over Japan of Japanese manufacture, and at a quarter of a fractional part of the cost of the original and genuine foreign made article.

### An Unfortunate Bondsman.

sentenced to pay her \$20 a month. tem .- Record. W. L. McDougall, also of Pittston, became Cutler's bondsman, furnishing ance of the sentence. After paying for three months Cutler refused to give his wife any more money, and McDougall has been compelled to pay her \$20 a month for three months. Saturday, but Judge Bennett said the court was powerless to relieve him of it is the One True Blood Purifier. the responsibility and he would have

If you wish to make a good start in the new year, it wouldn't be a bad idea to settle up your subscription. It takes money to pay salaries and we cannot furnish you with the news for nothing. A few subscribers pay in advance, but we will be very glad if those who are back will only pay for what they have got, and then your a picture is made in an instant. We mind will be easier knowing that you Coming Gold Shipments.

Never in the past history of the United States has there been such an excess of exports over imports, in the five months ending November 30 of any year, as in the year 1896. The excess amounts to \$191,130,269. seems almost ethereal, it is pre-emi- | Yet, in spite of this favorable balance of trade, it is quite probable that we shall follow up our immense shipwater coast and in its twelve hundred ments of cotton, breadstuffs and various merchandise by renewed shipevery conceivable variety, from the ments of gold. Remarking on this probability the Financial Chronicle. December 19, says: Wherein then does the reason lie

Nowhere in all our broad land can for our being just on the edge of gold shipments-a trade-contracting influence under present circumstances -when we ought to be receiving gold and thereby recuperating and reviving our half-dead industries? The answer bankers give to this question is everywhere the same. Their opinion is that the anomaly is accounted for by the unnatural congestion of money in New York City, keeping the rates all the time lower here than in Europe. Now it is Berlin that is about to take advantage of this situation. Money is active at 5 per cent. fishing and hunting, and its extensive there : here it is say 21 per cent. and going a-begging at that. Why tractions for the valetudinarian, the should not Berlin bankers call on lover of nature, the sportsman, and their near neighbor London for their gold? Why should they come all the way to America and go nowhere sylvania Railroad Company has ar- else? Because New York is not only the cheapest money market there is in the world, but it is the only market that cannot be influenced by a rise in foreign exchange or even by a withdrawal of gold. In London money hardens as soon as the exchanges turn against that centre because its currency is the world's currency. America, on the other hand, suffers because its currency is wholly out of touch with the world's currency except through the United States Treasury, and when redeemed in gold there it has to be paid out again as soon as redeemed.

This explanation hits the target in the very bull's eye. We have cheap and abundant money, but no use for it as long as there is no assurance of a remedy for a financial situation which keeps us at the call and beck of gold hoarders and borrowers the world over. Meantime the leaders of the Republican party seemed disposed to kick the ladder on which they climbed to power from under their own feet. They propose to ignore the issue on which McKinley carried New York, Kentucky, Indiana, New Jersey, Connecticut, Illinois, Michigan and Wisconsin and start out on new tariff-tinkering enterprises. The taurant. Meals will be served at the regular new tariff-tinkering enterprises. The business of the country has been tariff-tinkered to death. Business needs rest. It needs to be let alone. It needs such assurance as an immediate, courageous reform of the currency would instantaneously bring.

The people are entitled to expect such reform. They are entitled to the opportunity which the immense extension of our export trade has achieved for us, without the para-Some months ago B. F. Cutler of lyzing uncertainties that inhere in our Pittston, who deserted his wife, was patchwork, crazy-quilt currency sys-

#### More Curative Power

\$1,000 bail for the faithful perform- Is contained in a bottle of Hood's Sarsaparilla than in any other similar preparation. It costs the proprietor and manufacturer more. It costs the jobber more and it is worth more to deposits. the consumer. It has a record of He had Cutler brought into court cures unknown to any other preparation. It is the best to buy because

> Hood's Pills are the best family cathartic and liver medicine. Gentle, reliable, sure.

Harrisburg will do away with the volunteer fire department and create a paid one. It is estimated that the cost to the city will aggregate \$35,000 per year, for which it will be necessary to levy an additional one mill tax.

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	Butter bei ib	12
5	TARREST LANGUEST CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF	.21
	Lard per lb	.0
	Ham per pound	11
	Pork, whole, per pound	.0
	Beef, quarter, per pound	10
	Beef, quarter, per pound Wheat per bushel	.9
	Clara st st	3
	Exyc	.5
	wheat nour per bot	5.20
	Hay per ton	to \$1
j	Potatoes per bushel:	-30
1	Turnips " "	.2
	Onions " "	-50
	Sweet potatoes per peck	-20
1	Tallow per lb	+4:
I	Shoulder " "	.10
ı	Side meat " "	.10
1	Vinegar, per qt	,0
1	Dried apples per lb	.0
i	Dried cherries, pitted	.10
l	Raspberries	.1
i	Cow Hides per lb	.3
Į	Cow Hides per lb	.01
ł	Calf Skin	.80
l	Sheep pelts	
1	Shelled corn per bus	-75
l	Corn meal, cwt	
ł	Bran, "	1,50
l	Chop "	.90
I	Middlings "	1,00
į	Chickens per lb new	.90
١	" " old,	.08
l	Turkeys " "	
l	Geese " "	.12
ı	Ducks " "	.10
l		.08
I	COAL	
ŀ	No. 6, delivered	2.60
I	" 4 and ¢ "	3.85
I	O at yard,	2.35
l	" 4 and 5 at yard	3.60
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