It Isn't Much Like the National Game, but It Is a Lively Sport. Ball playing seems to have been a

general source of amusement among all the American Indian tribes, but, writes Henry Inman, in the Kansas City Star, it is conceded that the Chectaws, it their uncivilized state, were the most skilled in the game. Of course, the Indian method of playing is not at all similar to the American National game and indeed it is more like tennis.

It is played with two bats or sticks, and in every house I visited in the Choctaw Nation I saw one or more pairs of these peculiar bats. The sticks are bent into an oval loop at one end, with a web of fine buckskin thongs stretched across them to prevent the ball from falling out when tossed or caught. Each player carries two of these bats, one in each hand, and they catch the ball by jumping into the air, and throw it from the bats, and never are allowed to strike it or eatch it with their hands.

In their primitive days it was an invariable law of the game that no player should wear moccasins on his feet, and he could make his appearance on the ball grounds only in the prescribed dress. He had to wear his breech-clout and a beautiful head belt and fail, made of white horse hair or quills, with a mane around his neck constructed of the same material as the tail, dyed in colors. The match was made up months before the day agreed upon for the playing of the game, and was led by two champions, or captains, as we should call them. These captains had the power to go through the tribe, from village to village, and alternately choose the men for their respective sides. The choice of players was generally effected by proxy; two "runners" were sent, armed with a pair of "ball-sticks." These were elaborately ornamented with paint, ribbons and any thing that had a gaudy appearance, and were touched by the players selected as an evidence that they accepted and would be on hand promptly at the appointed time, prepared to take part. Each side erected on the ground, where the game was to take place, two upright poles about thirty feet high and six feetupart. across the top of which another pole was fastened. These were called the

certain signal. All the preliminaries for the game were attended to by an old men, who were also the judges or umpires. First a line was drawn from one goal to the other; this was called the betting line, across which all bets were made and placed in possession of the regularly-appointed stake-holders, and all betting was made the night before the game was to be called. Every conceivable thing was staked that the Indian possessed, for there is no such inveterate gambler as poor Lo. The women of the tribe, too, were as earnest to wager what their lodges contained, even to the last blanket.

goals or "byes," and the distance be-

between them, one representing one side

and one the other, was some 800 feet.

At a point exactly half way from each

goal a small stake was driven where the

ball was to be thrown into the air at a

The night before the game, all the players assembled around their respective "byes," where, by the light of torches and other fires, the squares beat their tom-toms and sung the weird songs of the nation. Then was the "ballplay dance" indulged in, all the players of both sides, in their full game dress, rattling their bats together and joining in the monotonous chants of the tribe. Then the squaws formed on each alde of the betting-line and there danced and sung appeals to the Great Spirit to deside the game to-morrow in their favor. . Are by was always opened by four old medicine men, who were also the Sweat-Groun-Growl. umpires. The night before the game was called, while the players and the betters were dancing and having a good time at the "byes" and the betting line, they were squatted down at a small stake, away from the form smoking to the Great Spirit for ability to impartially decide the game to-morrow, as their

duties required. The four old men standing at the small stake throw the ball up in the air and then the players, numbering 700 or 800 frequently, rush frantically to the spot, leaping and actually jumping over each others' heads, darting between their adversaries' legs, and all the time keeping up the most demontacal yells in their efforts to toss the ball to their own side. Somotimes a regular handto-hand fight occurs, but it never becomes serious, because, according to one of the rules of the game, every weapon is left in the village and no man is allowed to go or send for one, so that these occasional broils never amount to anything. The game is for 100 points, and a point is when the ball is passed through the poles of either side, which

All the players' efforts seem to be concentrated upon keeping the ball up in the air, but of course it does fall to the ground once in awhile, and then the scene is pandemenium broke loose; you can not see the players for the dust they raise as they rush together, nor can they see the ball either, and bloody noses and broken shins are the rule. Besides the 700 or 800 players there will often be twice that number of speciators on the ground, so that it can be imagined what a noise they make when all whoop and yell together.

WESTERN CIVILITY.

A Neat Compliment Paid a Pretty Girl by n Bashini Cowboy. Here is a very neat little story, from the St. Louis Republic, illustrative of the fact that even the wild and woolly West can produce a natural-born Chesterfield upon occasion. At a party given last winter was a bushful cowboy, who had not been in civilized society for several years. He was a good-looking fellow, and one of the young ladies present kindly took an interest in him and tried to make him feel at ease. He fell desperately in love at once and the hostess noticing this encouraged him all she could. In leaving the house the young lady who had taken a friendly interest in the cowboy forgot her overshoes, and the hostess told the young Lochinvar from the plains that he might return them to the girl if he wished.

The horder leaped at the chance, and presented himself in due time at the young lady's house. She was surprised to see him but greeted him cordially. "You forgot your overshoes last night. said he awkwardly, handing her the package.

She thanked him and opened it. "Why, there's only one overshoe here,"

"Yes, Miss --- ," said the blushing vacquer, earnestly. "I'll bring round the other one to-morrow, and I only ish to God, Miss, that you were a cent;

A Rat Sacrifices a Leg.

A rat got caught by the leg in a store and squeated foundly for mercy, says a COR. CENTRE AND SAMPLE STREETS Maine exchange. The proprietor of the store watched the rat, which continued to squeal. Finally another rat crept cautiously out and walked up to his unfortunate companion and evidently took the situation in, for they seemed to talk with each other and arrived at the conclusion that the captured rat's chances were desperate, for the second one began to grow the unfortunate rar's log off, allowing it to escape, which it did, limping away on three legs, the other leg remaining in the trap. It almost seemed as if they had deliberated over the case and had reached the only possible means of escape.

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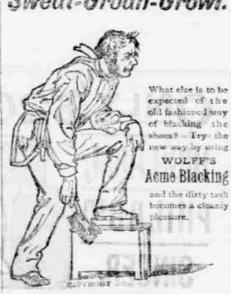
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A NEBRASKA HEROINE.

Woman with Nerve Governed a "Talk about leetle women," said the man on the cracker box, who was entertaining the insurance agent and a tree traveler, "there ain't nothin' under the sun a leetle woman can't do if she sets out tew. She jest takes hold and does by stratagee what a big woman does by nain strength and awkwardness. Ain't

The reservation Indian designated

t so, Sleepy Sam?"

grunted "ugh!" although he did not unlerstand a word that was said, writes Mrs. M. L. Rayne, the recorder of this anecdote, in the Detroit Free Press. "It 'minds me of a incident which happened when I was the postmaster an' spress agent at this here place. Omaha varn't much more than a village, an' its main curiosity was a floatin' bridge in iem days. There was a valiso come in y 'spress with no kind of direction on Now I'd just had a queer 'sperience with a trunk that got left here, no name or nothin', but a young woman come in for it, an' I sed, sez I: 'Dentify it, my dear: if it is yours, while I open it.'

eggs in I'm takin' to my aunt to make a "'Take it, my dear,' says I; 'it's ours, an' your aunt's omelet is made, but I guess the rest of your things ain't improved any."

t was as heavy as lead."

"'I will,' says she; 'there's a dozen

"Gentlemen, when I hefted the valisa

"Dynamite?" suggested the traveler. "Bricks?" Inquired the insurance man. "Way off. I felt it incumulent on me as a Government officer to open that valise and find out what was in it, and was getting ready tew hunt a key. when right then in walked two women. One of them was the Widow Snell, a poor washed-out, weeping woman, that always aggravated me to death a snifflin' over her dear departed Jim, the meanest and most cantankerous human this side of the Rockies. The other was a little mite of a dandified woman. I could hev' lifted her with one hand, an' her head was hardly above the coun-

"'Cap'n,' says she-yes, I fit in the war-'Cap'n, is there a valise here for "Ain't but one valise here, ma'am

an' that ain't for you,' says I. "'How do you know?' says she, as pert as you please. "I'll thank you to "I lifted it up and banged it on the "Be careful, says she, 'it might go off; then she took a key off a ribbon

at her neck and handed it to me. " 'Unlock it,' says she. "The way she ordered me round made my head swim. Sure enough, the key unlocked it slick as a whistle. " 'You'll please tell me what's in this here valise, ma'am, says I, in my official

"Oh yes,' says she, gettin' up on tiptoe, "there's a navy revolver, an' a sevenshooter, and an English buildeg that only holds one bullet, but shoots to kill

"There they are, ma'am, an' they're yours,' says I; 'I don't dispute your word in the least and will be much obliged if you'll just take the hull arsenal off my hands.

"She stuck the revolvers in her beli and carried the bulldog in her hand. "Come, Alice, says she, 'we'll go home now,' and she walked out and walked out past all them reserve Injury without a look at 'em, the widow fel lowing as meek as Moses." "What was she doing here?" asked the

"Gentlemen, she were a visitin' her cousin, that poor, sighin', cryin' widow. It were the year that the Bad Axe In juns was sent up here to our reservation to make life a burden to us, till that leetle woman come up here loaded for bear. That cousin of hers didn't have gumption enough to keep them from stealing the roof from over her head. An' one night gentlemen, the little woman heard a step outside her window and saw an Injun taking off the widow's best horse, an' she jest opens the door and steps out, an' says she: 'Stop in your tracks or you're a dead Injun? and she held the cold muzzle of the pistol to his head. He did'nt wait for no parley

in', but just evaporated to onct. "The Injuns liked her mightily for her pluck, an one day as she sot on the fence drawin' pictures of the bluffs, an' the tepees, along rid a Injun and stopped to admire her. He didn't have much or but a blanket, an' was dirty and sassy an' he fanned himself with a turkey tail fan. Says her

"'Yes-Chicago-git,' says she. She kinder played with the shooter in her left an' he got an' I recken that was the

shortest courtship on record. "That little woman stayed there till she coaxed the widow to swap the farm for town lots, and sell off all the stuff, and put the money in the bank, and she made her stop cryin' an' snifflin' over that pesky Jim Snell, an' brace up an' be somebody. When she got things a boomin' and the Injuns tamed down into decent mem ... s of sassiety she packed up her firearms and went home to Chicago an' then the funniest thing of all came out, for the widow told on her. There weren't one of them firearms loaded. She had just bulldozed the hull lot of us with empty revolvers. Fact, gentlemen; have some pop? The law forbids any thing stronger. When everybody had popped the tree

traveler asked carelessly "What became of the widow?" "Married her myself," said the man on the cracker-box, rising slowly; "anybody got any thing to say in favor or

Nobody had. A DELIGHTFUL WOMAN.

Now a Wisconsin Farmer's Daughter Treated a Proposal. Miss Kate Cummings, who lives with er parents on a farm in Winnebago, Vis., can bent any man in the county mowing hay, says the New York World. She wears boots and a waterproof, with a felt hat and linsey-woolsey dress, and, mounted on the mowing-machine, she is as handsome as a Hobe. Kate has had a great many admirers, and the admirers have had, a great many difficulties to

One of them had the audacity to swear out a warrant for her arrest on the charge of assault with malicious intent. Rufus Sloan was bired by Mr. Cumnings for harvest work, and while turning the new-mown hay he fell in love with Kate. Every time she came around on her charlot, pushing the sickle a little further into the standing grain, Rufus would take his hat off and throw a handful of kisses at her. The young lady did not like this performance an

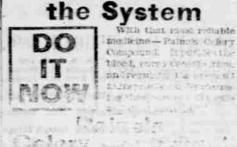
Then Rufus asked her to pull up, as, e had something to say to her. She drew the horses in, pushed her red hair behind her ears, and with fire in her blue-gray eyes said:

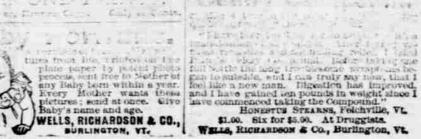
Then Rufus planted his pitchfork the stubble for a rest, told her he wanted a wife, and offered her the position. She corled up her nose, wrinkled her brow with scorn, and answered: "You? Bab!"

This was too much for Rufus, who jabbed her in the side with his pitchfork. Kate screamed; the horses started. In his excitement the irate swain got on the sickle side of the mower. The lady saw her advantage, seized the lines, and chased the fleeing lover all over the field, screaming that she would mow him down and cut his ugly legs off.

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ty to slip the green frog into the basin. On seeing the frog, a load was removed Pittsburg, Pa., make a specialty from the Duchess' heart. The next inof manufacturing for the domes-Cabarns supported her tottering frame. tic trade the finest brands of she cried, in a despairing tone: "Oh. Illuminating and Lubricating Oils, left a little one behind." "Stop!" cried Naphtha and Gasoline barrassment to be seen in his manner;

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and uttered, with a certainty that settled

years, says London Tid-Bits, it has been her inveterate custom to puff away after dinner at a strong Italian cigar, PITTSBURG, PA. one of those with a straw running

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Apr. 75, '90-ly Oldest established house in the city, where

STAPTOMS Moleture; intense itching and attaging; most at night; were by scratching if allowed to continue tunners form and tunners form and ploration of plots blood and ploration of the after a few and the stap the technique of the after a few and the stap the technique of the after a few and the stap the technique of the after a few and the stap the technique of the after a few and the stap the technique of the stap the technique of the stap the technique of the stap the sta

He sat and looked at the busy editor for about fifteen minutes steadily. Finally he yawned sleepily and remarked: "There are some things in this world that go without saving." "I know it," PITTSBURGH, PA. snapped the editor, "but there are too darned many things that say a good deal without going."

Heroes Are All Tall. A study of novel heroes by the London Speaker discloses the fact that of 192

masculine characters in recent summer fiction almost half were described as being over six feet tall. None were under the average height. It is really too bad to put such finely-built gentlemen to such poor use.

ESTABLISHED 1872.

HYSTERICAL INVENTIONS.

A Wonderful Sweeping Machine and an

mill has taken up the subject of dusting

and sweeping by means of suction

draughts. He has a perambulating ma-

chine which, by means of fans and

hydraulic pressure, gets a draught

through a spiral hose with a nozzle

shaped at its terminus like the trouble

end of a trombone. He starts up a

flies, then turns on this blizzard ma-

chine and a condensed cyclone is im-

mediately precipitated. He moves his

hose end round like the snout of a Jer-

arises the suction of his mechanism

draws it, and it immediately goes "ur

the spout," so to speak. The idea is all

right; the only difficulty which stands

in the way is the possibility of his get-

ting too big a draught on and shooting

pipes running up the chair back to about

where your neck would rest. As you

rocked the chair the bellows worked

and you were given bysterical breezes.

It worked all right for the man who

could stand shower baths, but it cost

one furniture dealer I know of three

good customers by neuralgia, pneu-

monia and croup. In another case the

customer tried it and had to run a block

to catch his wig. It's a good idea,

though, but, like all those things,

you have to get some one to think so.

As for myself, I think the sweeping ma-

chine would be better employed shoot-

ing coal into a cellar, and the man with

the bellows-rocker would make a fortune

if he worked it up around the caves of a

roof and blew the snow into the next

county instead of down the back of the

neighbor who always gets under the

EXPELLING A FROG.

How a French Duchess Was Cured of

The Duchess of Trois-Etoiles, one of

he most aristogratic ladies of the Fau-

bourg St. Germain, says Racket, had got

possessed of the idea that she had swal-

lowed a frog. She felt this frog-she

declared she had-and its presence

robbed her of her peace of mind, sleep

and even of health. The Parisian phys-

icians had the rudeness to deny the ex-

istence of this animal, ignorant, as they

were, but the poor lady suffered martyr-

dom. A fortunate chance made her ac-

quainted with Dr. Cabarus, a brother-in-

law of De Lesseps, and to him she told

her tale of woe. He felt, with a seri-

ousness worthy of Hippocrates himself,

the pulse of the fair patient, inquired

after various symptoms, and when the

charming aristocrat had exhausted all

her store of arguments to prove her pe

a well-feigned pause: "Madame, the

frog is there, but I will remove it." He

then prescribed an innocent emetic, and

went to the nearest flower-shop, where

he bought a small, green frog. Armed

with this confederate, he presented him-

self once more before the Duchess, and

placed a basin of water in readiness.

Duchess' eyes filled with tears, and the

doctor took advantage of the opportuni-

stant, she turned pale, and, as Dr.

doctor, I am not cured, for the frog has

Cabarus, without allowing a trace of em-

"that we shall soon see." He then threw

a searching glance upon the frog, which

he had by this time taken in his hand,

FOND OF THE WEED.

presses. Queens and Princesses.

The Empress Elizabeth, of Austria,

smokes from thirty to forty Turkish and

through it, and which is brought to her

with her cup of Tarkish coffee every

On her writing table are always a

large silver box of repousse work filled

with cigarettes, a match-box of carved

Chinese jade, and a capacious ash re-

ceiver. Almost mechanically her Majesty

lights cigarette after cigarette as she

sits in her great writing-room at Godollo,

which is fitted up with carved oak panels

and Goberia tapestries; the somber hue

of the walls being relieved here and

The Czarina of Russia, who is likewise

one of the vassals of King Nicotine.

smokes in a somewhat more indolent

and almost Oriental fashion. Stretched

on the silken cushions of a broad, low

divan, at Gatschina, she follows dreami-

ly with her beautiful, dark eyes the

rings of blue smoke that her crimson

lips part to send upward into the per-

fumed air of her boudoir-a boudoir

which she calls her "den," and which is

copied from one of the loveliest rooms

of the Alhambra, with palms raising

Queen Marguerite, of Italy, is another

of the royal ladies who see no harm in

the use of tobacco. Her flashing black

eyes look laughingly through fragrant

onds of smoke, and she is wont to de-

lare that her eigarette is more essen-

tial to her comfort than any thing else

Christina, Queen Regent of Spain, is a

great advocate of tobacco. She con-

aumes a large quantity of Egyptian ci-

garettes, and there is nothing that her

ittle "Bubi," his Majesty, King Alphon-

so XIII, enjoys more than when his

other permits him to strike a match

and apply the flame to the end of her

The smoking paraphernalia of the

beautiful ex-Queen Natalie of Servia is

of the most claborate and magnificent

description, while the poet-Queen of

Roumania, so well known in the literary

world under the pseudonym of 'Carmen

Sylva," is content with the gold cigar-

ette case suspended to her chatelaine.

The Comtesse de Paris, the Queen de

jure of France, is addicted to mild

Havanas of delicious flavor, and her

a source of considerable fortune to the

manufacturers of cigarettes at Dresden.

Going and Saying.

ighter, Queen Amelia, of Portugal, is

rigarette. Am. 1990

their banners against the gorgeous col

ors and dispered gold of the walls.

there by trophies of the chase.

evening on a gold salver.

The emetic began to take effect, the

roof at the wrong time.

book, odd socks or sister's bangs.

grand racket on the carpet till the dust

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A geniss with a profound thought-

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in stray leaves from the family text-BRAFTS Issued negotiable in all parts of the United This idea, which is chronicled as an states, and foreign exchange issued on all parts invention in the Patent Office at Wash- of Europe. ington, is on a par with the rocking ACCOUNTS chair which came out eight mouths ago,

chair which came out eight mouths ago, says the Pittsburgh Dispatch. The inventor arranged under the rockers a pair of bellows attached to a series of banking roles will be treated as liberally as good banking roles will be treated as liberally as good banking roles will be relied as liberally as good banking roles will be relied as liberally as good banking roles will be relied. banking tules will permit. Respectfully.

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no broken chimneys, so flickering, no sweating ne climbing up of the flame, no "tautrums" nor annoyance of any kind, and it never needs trimming. Its founts (oil reservoirs) being tough rolled seamless brass, with cen-tral draft, it is absolutely unbreakable, tral draft, it is absolutely unbreakable, and as saye as a fallow candle.

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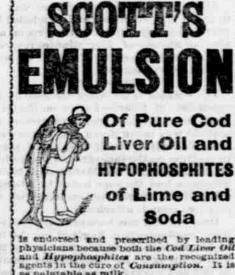
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THE COUNTRY GROCER What Is Usually Kept in Stock in to Those Establishmen

How surprisingly one countr "store" resembles another. they were all intentionallafter a given pattern. Dry goo calicoes, for rural dames and always occupy the shelves on crockery, tinware and barreled the rear; miscellaneous foods rticles on the shelves to the mear the door a glass-covere "notions" of all sorts. The wants supplied by such a simply marvolous. A represe the Washington Star happe one the other day in a villag river, and, while negotiation paper and envelopes, pen, ink

age stamps, amused binned

for anie.

ing note of some of the things

The "notion" case alone was aw

museum. Among other artiwere tooth-brushes, cologne, c encils, back hair comba sloove-buttons, watch kees spectacles, shirt stads, rubby for babies' bottles, crochet pocket mirrors, seissors and strings. Also, in the same of banjo strings, fishing tackle, habies' rubber rings, jet mouth organs, tooth-powdrosin, ginger cakes, priages containing candy and tin horns and a few yards of On the other shelves bohis shirts, collars and cutta and make ties; straw and other hats, many horns for shoes, blacking and brushes. Bayond. shelves full of calicoes were creek brass ware, tin ware, twine for maseines, lamp-shades and chimneys, gue ware, canvas for sails, lamps, coff. grinders, carpenters' tools, mola vinogar and liquors, podlocks, pop boxes of roasted pennuts, paints; oils, toothpicks and ice skates. Are on the other side were patent medicine chewing tobacco, cigars, powder a shot, wash-tubu and boards, soap, b ing, school erayons, slates and bec

plasters, glue, nails, rope and pilk There was even a supply of ready-mais clothing. likewise salt meats and ra This will give a slight notion of the stock of a typical country grocery Such an establishment must have even thing that anybody can by any power ity want, and much of the stuff . deals in lies on the shelves for you

All sorts of canned goods, trees

and pickles were in stock; also say

cough drops, mustard plasters, po-

confectionery, clocks, castor oil, is

before the right customer comes along SHE MADE HIM NAUGHTY. Made Him Think About Kissing Girls, as Then He Kinsed Her.

They met by chance in the berry ! this bashful boy and laughing girl a writer in the New York Mercury eyes were as black as the berri backet, and as brilliant as those o cat-birds chattering in the tree her head. Her full, red, pouting boy's basket was full, and he kindly inteered to help the bewitching ! maid fill hers. Often while pine

the melting fruit from some glos

clusters her curls brushed his chee

but still it always seemed to be pur

accidental. The little maid, too, see:

anxious to work on the same el on which the boy was engaged, and sweet, young face was often tem near his own, as from time to time turned to address him. At last her! pouted, her eyes flashed and she simsucceeded in coaxing her sweet brow wrinkle indignantly. think," said she, "that the other d when I was out here all alone with certain boy of my acquaintance, just I am with you to-day, the naughty lin fellow up and kissed me. H eaught me this way," and her lips no touched those of the boy by her side a she endeavored to show him how it his been done. For a moment it seemed a if he would have to be as naugh that other boy, but his bash saved him. Still pouting, the maid then placed her dimpled in upon his shoulders, and, looking at into his eyes, she said: "You are a good boy, ain't you, and you we se naughty and treat me the way other boy did, would you?" poor boy seemed to lose his head. ifteen seconds later the little bla eyed maid was talking in this at

other boy, after all." Attached to story there is no moral. It has been from the beginning. STRANGE FOREIGN PRACTICES

'Oh, please let me go! You are a

ing me with kisses, and I really b

that you are more naughty than

Japanese theater temporarily by given a pass check, as in this con The door keeper takes the person the hand and stamps on it the stame the establishment. In Switzerland, it is said, the pay higher wages to a milkun can sing to the cows than to can not. This is done on the p that had treatment of a cow Injuri affects its milk.

Koran rest on the head while the is administered. But if the Kon skillfully held just above the bend form is not valid and the oath net THE favorite food of the Sanda Islanders is the flesh of the Mor. hairless dog. It is said to taste spring chicken and is considere

THE form of oath hinding on the M

ammedan conscience is to make

great dainty. These dogs are raised large numbers and fattened for ALL over the city of Berlin are are called "molkeris" or milk sta In the basement of an elegan buildings a few cows are kept re well fed and cared for and for egant milk for the patrons it ghborhood.

THE Siamese have great regard dd numbers and insist on having dd number of windows, doors and their houses and temples. The e an odd number of steps in the and an odd number of feet in the br of all steeples and minarets. ANY vessel causing a disast sunch is regarded by the day comed to ill-fortune for her reer. At Osaka lately a vessel while being launched, severa being drowned. She was deal

night with much ceremony. In Paris it is not customar tients to wait in the ante-ch great physicians, but inquiry ha made by letters, which are ra swered unless they come fr aristocratic quarter of the cases, however, numbered tickets given out at six in the morning. An Obliging People.

The Heligolanders accomm themselves to circumstances with derful case. All told they no thousand, which would give bundred grown-up males. Du Franco-German war they issued a! festo declaring that they were Ge and that they wished to throw in lot with their German fellow men. At present they tell Engl who visit them that their affect England is phenomenal, and when mans visit them they make the declaration in regard to the fatheris Probably they are fond of their and all other patriotism is a question bread and cheese.

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