## CONFEDERATE CASH.

UNIQUE COLLECTION OF PAPER MONEY OWNED BY UNCLE SAM.

How the Notes Were Made-A Big Business in Counterteiting-Depreciation of the Notes.

Hidden away among the archives of the Treasury Department is a excious volume which few people have ever looked into. Though nothing more nor less than a scrap book, it is filled from cover to cover with money. Altogether it holds not less than \$200,000. The contents are real currency of legitimate issue, and yet the whole of them would not be secepted to-day in payment for a bag of dour or a box of soap. This is because Confederate notes and bonds, which com pose the collection described, are worth at present nothing more than their value as waste paper, save in so far as certain Nevertheless the volume is extremely incirculation as promises to pay by the government of the South during the

Looking over the pages of the scrap book, the various issues of currency one follows from start to finish the history of the createst civil conflict that the world has ever seen. The story of a nation is always told most interestingly by its money. "Two years after date the confederate states promise to pay," reads the inscription on the earliest notes, but very soon this is replaced by a more conservative legend, setting the date of payment at "six months after the ratification of a treaty of peace between the confederate states and the United States,' and this latter form holds up to the end of the war. The money is patterned pretty closely after Uncle Sam's, but the clear tines of steel engraving are feebly imitated by the processes of photolithography. Why this method of printing employed is quite an entertaining anecdote in itself.

It will be remembered, perhaps, that Charles G. Meminger of South Carolina on taking office as the first secretary of the confederate treasury made a contract with the American Bank Note Company of New York for a supply of paper notes for \$1,000, \$500, \$100 and \$50. The order was filled, a considerable quantity of the currency being shipped to Richmond and safely delivered. The goods being found satisfactory the bank note company was requested to send on the engraved plates. This was done, but the United States government was on the siert and succeeded in capturing the plates on board of the vessel which was conveying them to Richmond. A few years later this matter was brought up in Congress very effectively as an argument to the confederate government being denounced as disloyal.

Now, at the time when the war began, the American Bank Note Company had a branch establishment at New Orleans. which was conducted by a man named Schmidt. Subsequent to the event just described plates for \$100, \$50, \$10 and \$5 notes were engraved there and printed from. This did not last long, however. Blanton Duncan, lieutenant colonel of a Kentucky regiment, started a private establishment at Richmond for producing paper currency by lithography, obtaining contracts to supply the confederate treasury. Other shops were set up later on for the same purpose, and the rivalry for government contracts being very great, they all united against Schmidt. At this period any northern man residing in the south was an object of suspicion, being regarded as an enemy and presumably an abolitionist. Accordingly the governor of Louisiana, yielding to public sentiment, swooped down upon the branch office of the Bank Note company, and confiscating all the material in the shape of plates, tools, etc., distributed

it among the lithograph printers.

About half a dozen of these lithographic establishments at Richmond and at Columbia, S. C., continued to print paper money for the confederate treasury up to the close of the war. From the beginning to the end of the conflict not far from \$1,500,000,000 in shinplasters of various denominations were turned out and put into circulation. Looking over the curious scrap book described one notices that each note is actually signed in pen and ink with the names of the treasurer and register of the treasury. manner. This was accomplished by employing clerks to sign for those officials. They were arranged to work in pairs, one signing for the register and the other for the treasurer. The numbers were added by a third person. At the beginming this labor was performed by men, trut they were in such demand for fighting purposes that women were substituted were afterwards cut up.

One complaint that was made against Schmidt was that he was horribly slow, and this was a very serious matter where there was an immediate necessity for almedium. The lithographic establishments imported the paper and other material in immense quantities by blockade runners from England. They also obtained from Great Britain their workmen, nearly all of whom were Scotchmen. The firm of Keating & Ball, at Columbia, survived all the other money of the war they had all the contracts and ing into the stone. were the official engravers for the con-federate treasury. Their factory was destroyed by General Sherman on his famous raid of 1865. In 1864 because of the continued quarrels among the different

tion of the paper currency.

complished forgers in the Bermudas and in the north devoted much attention to the production in immense quantities of fairly accurate imitations of the notes | ical Record claims that yawning is by no | noble warfare against the diseases which and bends of the southern states. It is means a useless act, for it often cures assair mankind on every hand. It is not certain that these criminals actually em- catarrh and other affections of the throat, in vain that men have sometimes looked ployed the services of lithographers in in many cases giving instantaneous re- heaven and for aid in sore affliction, for the money-printing establishments which lief. It produces considerable disten- has not the lightning been drawn from supplied shinplasters for the support of the war, and in this way they were able stituting a kind of massage, and under heaven born ally? - [New York Sun, to secure impressions made on paper this influence the cartilaginous pormatrices from the original lithographic stones. Thus they had no difficulty in expelling into the pharynx the mucosireproducing the bonds and notes by the ! simplest mechanical means in fac simile, the only difference being that the counterfoits were apt to be a little bigger than methods of Valsalva or Politzer, and is one egg at a time, throwing carefully the originals by reason of the stretching more rational than the insufflation of with a spoon the water from the side of the paper matrix.

At the beginning of the war the con- properly. federate paper money was current at par. and by 1863 its market value had fallen spesimens are in demand by collectors. had actually to be a millionaire in order to live at all. Milk cost \$40 a quart, teresting by reason of the fact that it and in one recorded instance a southern represents the most complete existing gentleman with a fair appetite paid \$105 media; air, food and water; channels; od. It is as follows: Cut the steak, assemblage of the "shinplasters" put in for a very modest lunch at a restaurantsuch a meal as one could get for about 45 cents in Washington now. At the fall of the confederacy the currency passed for 1 cent and a fraction on the dollar. An ex-colonel of volunteers, being arranged in chronological order, located in Washington, told the writer an odd story of an incident which occurred when the army of the Potomacwas in full pursuit of Lee's forces. As fast as the wagon trains of the enemy were overtaken they were pillaged and in one of them were found the funds of a military paymaster. About \$50,000 of the confedrate money seized was crammed into a gunuy-sack and delivered to the officer quoted. In response to a request he gave the entire sum to a sergeant, who afterward informed him that he had been able to dispose of it at the rate of \$5 on \$100 to confedrates, the presumption being that the latter expected to be able to use it profitably in parts of the south where the currency had not yet dropped to nothing in value. - Washington Star. .

### The Great Wall of China.

The scenery from the Great Wall is very fine. The wall is here a dividing line between the high, rugged hills of China, which tower above us on the one hand, and the great sandy plains of Mongolia on the other, with dim mountainsummits beyond in the far distance. Over these barren, rocky spurs and acclivities, ascending to their very summits, winding about in their irregular curves and zigzags, its serried battlements clear-cut against the sky on the topmost ridges, descending into dark gullies to appear again rising on the other side, the endless line of massive stone and brick runs on and on until lost against employing the American Bank to sight behind the farthest range. And Note Company to print United States so on it goes for miles and miles, eastmoney, its action in lending such services | ward to the Pechili Gulf, and westward, mostly in two great, rambling lines, of the Nan Shanrange. H. owever we may regard it, whether as a grand conception for the defense of an empire, as an engiis a stupendous work. No achievement of the present time compares with it in

magnitude. But it has outlived its usefulness. The powerful Tatar and Mongol hordes, se sudden raids and invasions it was whe built to resist, are no more to be feared. The great Genghis and Kublai could not lead their people to gory conquest now as they did centuries ago. The Chinese civilization has endured, while the once conquering Mongols, the people who in their brightest days established an empire from the Black Sea to the China coast, and a court at Peking of such luxury and splendor as Marco Polo described, are now doomed to pass away, leaving nothing behind them but the traditions, and records, and ruins of a brilliant past. The wall stands as a sharp line of division between the tribes of the irrepressible vitality to rise like a phenix and to reassert their supremacy and the superiority of their civilization .- [Cen-

# AROUND THE HOUSE.

You should always remember, housewives, that a mirror will surely present the serial number being put on in like a clouded surface, no matter how diligently rubbed, if it is hung where the direct rays of the sun shine upon it.

> Tomatoes or lemon juice make bad stains, often upon one's clothing. This discoloration can be easily and entirely removed by washing in a weak solution of ammonia.

In stamping letters it is sometimes betlater on. Altogether 244 women and 68 | ter to wet the envelopes than the stamps, men were engaged in this task during for this does not remove any of the the war. They did the signing and num- mucilaginous substance of the stamps, bering of the notes by sheets, which and the stamp is not so liable to be lost from the letter.

Marble is a very difficult article to clean if it is stained in such a way that the stain has suck into the stone. Slight most unlimited supplies of a negotiable stains may be removed with a pumice stone or with vigorous scrubbing. Gregsy stains are best removed with a paste of fuller's earth applied in the same manner it is applied to wall paper. It is said that stains of ink on marble may be removed by hydrochloric acid, which is a powerful poison, and which must be washed off with water almost as printing concerns, and toward the end soon as it is applied, to prevent its cat-

# Bears Breathe Easier.

Southern Oregon hunters are just now people who did the printing of the cur- mourning the death of John Griffin's rency, the treasury appointed an officer famous bear dog, who died a natural with the title of superintendent, whose death a day or two ago. Trailer was the duty it was to conduct dealings with the hero of more than a hundred bear fights tithographic engravers and to superind in the mountains of Southern Oregon, tend all matters respecting the product principally in the Siskiyous. Griffin has kept a record of Trailer's achievements As if there had not been other causes and finds that he has caught 105 bears sufficient to depreciate the value of the during his lifetime, including those confederate currency that government treed, brought to bay, and run into was still further embarrassed by the caves, where they were shot, besides counterfeiting on an enormous scale of eatching numerous panthers, wildcats, its issues of paper money. Gangs of accept.—[San Francisco Chronicle.

### THE BODY AND ITS HEALTH.

THE VIRTUES OF YAWNING, -The Med. tion of the muscles of the pharynx, con- the clouds to become his friend and tion of the custachian tube contracts, ties there collected. According to M, Naegeli, yawning is much more efficacious for affections of the tube than the broken egg from a saucer into it. Cook air, which is often difficult to perform over the egg to whiten the top. When

It soon began to depreciate, however, Physicians .- Some time ago the Ameri- ragged pieces and slip it on a small piece can Public Health Association proposed of buttered toast; sprinkle a little salt to about 50 per cent. Toward the end to America - hysicians the interrogatory, and pepper on each egg. A muffin ring of the war it was worth so little that one By what media and channels does the in the water will keep the egg in shape. specific cause of diphtheria gain entrance | FRENCH BEEFSTEAR. - The French to the human organism? To this inquiry have a way of cooking beefsteak that is the opinions are nearly all favorable to, quite different from the American methair passages, mouth, inoculation. Thus, from a fillet of beef, two-thirds of an inch it would appear, the prevalent opinion | thick; dip this into fresh, melted butter, of professional observers is that the nose lay them on a heated gridiron and broil and throat are the parts upon which virus over hot, clear coals. When nearly usually finds a lodgment. A large per done sprinkle pepper and sait over them. cent, of the observers believe the virus is | Have ready some parsley, chopped fine conveyed by the air, by food, and by and mixed with softened butter. Beat drinking water, but may be conveyed on them together to a cream and pour into the fingers, on spoons, knives, etc., used the middle of the dish. Dip each steak about the sick. A large majority do not | into the butter, turning it over, and lay believe in the disease being caused by them all around the platter. Now squeeze germs, ptomaines, or conditions and pro- a few drops of lemon over the whole and ducts developed within the body and in- it is ready to serve. dependent of specific causes received | Beans, Bosron Style, -Pick one from without; while nearly sixty per quart of beans free from stones and dirt, cent, believe that domestic animals and | wash and scak in cold water over night. fowls are subject to the disease and that In the morning pour off the water, cover they infect human beings.

> mous strides made by the new force in to split open (the time depends on the commerce and industries of late years age of the beans, thirty to sixty minutes). have been to a certain extent paralleled Turn them into a colander and pour over by the application of electricity in medi- them two quarts of cold water. Put the cine and surgery. The electric motor beans in a deep earthen pot, place the turns the drill of the dentist, bores out pork with the rind just marked off in all the noses of mankind in the hands of slices in the centre of the dish, mix one the rhinologist, and may run the saw and | tenspoonful of mustard and one tablethe trephine of the surgeon. The electric light is made to illuminate all the Pour this over the beans and add any cavities and interiors of the human body, pork-fat water that first drained from the so that "the pestilence that walketh in colander and add boiling water to just darkness" in the black recesses of our cover. Bake slowly ten hours. Add a viscera is sought out and driven away by little water occasionally, the electric search light. It is nothing now to put an endoscope into the stomach and scrutinize its walls from one end to the other, and in a dark room the very size of the stomach is de- John Henry Blake, of the Gastronomic termined by the translumination of the Club in session at the Lindell Hotel. abdominal walls when a light is turned "You never did? Then you don't know on inside of that viscus. Electricity fur- what luxury is. Talk about your fricasnishes heat for the cautery, with which seed frogs, pate de foie gras and all the

stimulated, and tumors extirpated. The electrolytic needle removes the sas hopper, done brown in fresh country bairs of the bearded women, eradicates butter. birthmarks, decomposes tumors, coagu- Wichita when the hoppers swooped lates aneurisms, and in its most romantic down on Kansas like a horde of hungry role manufactures those most desired or- office-holders on a President elect naments of the feminine physiognomy, When they finished feeding and bobbed along the border of the Gobi Desert and lovely dimples. The electro-magnet up on the barbed wire fences to pick Kansu, until it ends among the foot-hills | pulls out the beam from our neighbor's | their teeth and talk it over the country eye, when the beam is in the shape of a looked like the burned district in Chi piece of iron, and when the operation is cago after the big fire. I had a new green intelligently directed by the ophthal- wagon with red wheels, and the hoppers neering feat, or merely as a result of the mologist. It may hunt up and draw out ate every bit of paint off it and gnawed persistent application of human labor, it | wandering needles. One of the new | the woodwork. They ate all the blackfeatures of electric medication is the ing off my harness, the tails off my introduction of drugs into the human horses, and I had to keep my dog under body through the skin. This is done a tarpaulin to prevent them devouring by placing so'utions of any drug upon him raw. You never saw such appea sponge, which is made the positive tites. They got into my commissary depole and placed against the skin. When partment and made away with everything the current is turned on the drug is ac- but a stone jar of butter I had bought in tually driven through the skin into the St. Joe. I didn't have a cent, and it was painful. Thus cocaine has been driven live on butter, you know, so I concluded in over a painful nerve, and neuralgias to play for even. I built a fire, put my have been relieved by it. Many other skillet over it, and dropped in half a drugs have been used in this way. This pound of dyspepsia provoker. It was property of electricity is known as cata- soon frying and sizzling away at a great phores.s. Operations have been per- rate, and the hoppers were hopping into formed after anæsthetizing the skin and it, sixty a second. I let 'em fry about a subjacent tissues cataphoretically. The minute, then I removed 'em and sat neurologist perhaps finds a large thera- down to give my stomach a surprise putic field for electrical exploration. party. Well, sir, the hind legs were the With the continuous current he soothes linest meat I ever ate. They had an exthe pains of peripheral nerves, calms cellent flavor, and tasted like mountain north and the Chinese. The latter, down an excited brain, stimulates brook trout. I fared sumptuously after though repeatedly subdued and forced healthy processes in a diseased that and found the journey far too short. to bear a foreign yoke, have shown an spinal cord, exercises paralyzed If a locust is anything like a Kansas muscles. limbs, and aids in the rebuilding of tis- kick coming. -[St. Louis Globe-Demsues in members that have wasted away, ocrat, Sometimes he calls to his aid the interrupted and the alternating currents, and occasionally takes into service the static sparks evolved from the big glass wheels and Leyden ja's. The method of the working of electricity in disorders of the and an engine would be "so much the nervous system is much more obscure than in the maladies mentioned above, where heat, light, electrolysis, and cataphoresis produce effects at once apparent to the senses. Not able to demonstrate objectively the value of electricity in some of the chronic nervous diseases, a great deal has to be accepted on faith. There is dispute in some quarters as to its intrinsic value here, and many incline to the idea that suggestion has a good deal to do with improvement in patients this kind treated in this way. Besides its employment as a therapeutic agent, electricity has considerable value as a means of diagnosis in many neurological conditions. For instance, the resistance as away with such force that the carcass measured by the rheostat is reduced in was hurled down an embackment with exophthalmic goitre and increased in hysteria. The muscular contractions produced in paralysis from injury to certain parts of the nervous system are so different from contractions produced by electricity in paralysis due to lesions in the brain, as an example, that their differen- ous one. An elephant with a thin skull tiation constitutes an important aid in | can hardly expect to be victorious in a distinguishing these affectious one from conflict of this kind; nevertheless, the another. Then, too, in the surgery of escape of the train without injury is the brain and spinal cord which has new. very fortunate. - [Hong Kong Gazette. ly sprung into existence, electric stimulation of parts of the brain and of nerveroots is very valuable in localizing the exact region to be operated upon. Indeed, much of our knowledge of the you!" whenever a person sneezes must be localization of functions in different parts | widespread indeed when we find a simiof the surface of the brain is owing to lar salutation, Mbuka! (literally, equals electricity made use of by physiologists live!) obtaining among the Fijians of the in their marvellous experimental re- South Pacific, a race developed by the searches in cerebral domains. Altogether | blending of the Malayo-Polynesians with electricity occupies an extensive place in the Papuans, the Fiji group being the the armamentarium of the physician. All borderland between the two. It has parts of the human economy are explored been said by a London physician that by its beneficent light, and there is no one is nearer death at the actual moment

new apparatus, new devices, new forms of current, and new methods are made available to the medical profession in its

### RELIABLE RECIPES.

Peached Eggs. -- Salt the water well; when it is simmering drop lightly each cooked just enough take out the egg DIPHTHERIA AS VIEWED BY AMERICAN with a perforated ladle, trim off the

with hot water, put two-pound piece of ELECTRICITY IN MEDICINE. - The enor- pork with them and boil till they begin

### Fried Grasshoppers' Legs.

"Ever eat any grasshoppers?" asked morbid surfaces may be healed, wounds rest o' your highfaultin' French fixin's! They just ain't in it at all with a fat Kan-I was travelling from St. Joe to The applications are not at all two days' drive to Wichita. Couldn't rejuvenates overworked hopper, the original pathfinder had no

# Elephant and Locomotive.

The remark of George Stephenson that the result of a collision between a cow worse for the coo" is historical. That even a greater animal than a "coo" will fail to score a touch-down against a locomotive, except under favorable conditions, is amply shown in a report from Siam. It seems that a full-grown elephant broke a fencing of the railway near the Oktwin Station, and then coolly walked down the line between the rails. The mail train from Mandalay shortly afterward put in an appearance, and, frighteend by the noise and the sparks from the stack, the elephant turned and charged the unknown antagonist.

The train kept on the track, but the rash'attacker was powhere. It was swept the skull crushed in. An elephant of large size will weigh about three or four tons, and if this particular one had attained any speed in the charge which proved so disastrous to its valiant career. the collision must have been a most seri-

Speezing. The practice of saying "God bless cell so secretly hidden that it may not be influenced by this wonderful force which may be made to penetrate skin, muscle, bone, blood, nerves, and viscera. No one can yet place a limit upon its possi- dangerous to interrupt a person in the bilities as a remedial agent, for each year act of sneezing - Notes and Queries.

#### CLLA PODRIDA.

The longest word in the Century Diccionary is "palatopharyngeolaryngeal." A Russian can plead infancy for a long time as he does not come of age till he is

26 years old.

Wolves in Russia destroy annually upward of 800,000 head of domestic animals, valued at 8,000,000 rubles, Their number does not apparently decrease.

One of the most interesting magazine, has no pictures, though it has a few advertisements. It is Kneass' Philadelphia Magazine for the Blind. The pages of raised letters have a strange and sometimes pathetic novelty. They give news, curious information, stories, &c., in brief

The Osage Indians are said to be the richest community in the world. They are but 1,509 in number, but they have \$8,000,000 deposited to their credit in the Treasury in Washington, on which they draw \$100,000 interest every three months, and they own 1,470,000 acres of the best land in Oklahoma. Most of them wear blankets, despite their wealth.

### Balky Razors.

Anthony Chryst, a delegate to the International Barbers' Convention from St. Paul, in speaking of the tonsorial trade, said: "I know there are quite a number of persons who do not believe that a razor gets just as tired as a barber, but it is a fact just the same, and I speak from personal experience. I have been busily engaged removing the beard from a man's face when all at once my razor would refuse to work; it would actually not cut a hair. I would strop it, but all to no purpose, for it would not do service. I had one of these razors on hand about a year ago when a most decrepit individual entered my shop. My chair was vacant and it fell my lot to remove his hirsute appendage. I had it in for him on the start, and in order to get my revenge I hauled out my tired razor, expecting for my customer to endure ten thousand agonies during the operation, but I was most beautifully fooled, for that old razor went through his old crusty beard just the same as silk thread, and as a consequence I have had him on my hands ever since. I don't know how to account for it, nor do the numerous scientists I have consulted, but it is a well-known fact that a razor gets tired and will refuse to work just the same as a balky mule. - [St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

### A Mighty Haul of Fish.

A salmon fisher and packer from Alaska told to a fellow patient in a New York hospital the other day a wonderful story of what is perhaps the greatest single salmon haul on record. The company to which the narrator belongs has its headquarters at Sau Francisco, and sends each year to one of the Alaskan rivers a schooner bearing sixty men, all of whom are busied in making tin salmon cans during the voyage. The point at which the camp was made last season is 300 miles from the nearest post office. The season lasts from May to October, and the pack of the company on that particular river was 1,500,000 pound caus.

On the day of the great salmon haul enormous schools of natmon were discovered in a reach of the river. The stream was guarded at three points with traps, and the fish were driven toward three great nets. The school was so thick presently that it was difficult to run a boat through the enclosed pool. Great fish leaped out of the water and struck the oars from the hands of the rowers. At length the haul was made, and at least 75,000 fish were drawn ashore. Two-thirds of the fish were liberated, as it was impossible to core at once more than the 25,000 that were saved. The fish averaged nearly eight pounds each .- [New York Sun.

# A Curious Damage Suit.

F. E. Sloat, of Brockport, N. Y., owner of the stallion Cambria Wilkes, has brought an action for \$20,000 against the Bell Telephone Company for damages alleged to have been the result of a blunder by an operator in Rochester. A year ago the horse was injured by an accident, and Stoat sent a telephone message to Dr. Edward Crandall, a veterioary surgeon of Rochester, asking him to come to Brockport on the first train.

The receiving operator substituted Fairport for Brockport and signed the name of F. E. Smith. The message was sent to Dr. Crandail's office and he went immediately to the New York Central Station, only to find that the local train for the East had just gone. A train for Brockport, however, was standing in the station house, a messenger was sent after the doctor by Sloat, and the surgeon finally reached Brockport after several hours delay. He was too late to be of aid to the animal, although, so the plaintiff states, the injuries would not have resulted seriously if the doctor had arrived promptly. - [New York Times.

# The Cosmopolitan.

illustration and varied in interest. It

The January Cosmopolitan is rich in

opens with a description of the manner of making an illustrated magazine (meaning, of course, itself), this being the first is sue from its own printing office. The article will interest readers unacquainted with the mysteries of a printing office greatly, and it is illustrated by portraits of its leading contributors, the number of whom will be a surprise. Among the illustrated papers in this number are: "Four Famous Artists," by Ger-ald Campbell; "Japan Revisald Campbell; "Japan Revis-ited," by Sir Edwin Arnold; "Beauties of the American Stage," by Joseph P. Read and William S. Walsh; "The Confessions of an Autograph Hun-ter," by Charles Robinson; "The Eng-lish Laureates," by R. H. Stoddard; "The Muses of Manhattan," by Brander Matthews; "Grant Under Fire," by Theodore R. Davis; and "The Wheel of Time," a serial novel, by Henry James. In addition there are several poems and two complete stories (the latter by W. D. Howells and Louise V. Sheldon), as well as the usual departments. It is a strong number, beginning the new yoar with performance as well as promise.

#### FOR THE YOUNG FOLKS

HOME FIRST. We had a scrawny cat, Afraid of mouse or rat; So mother said one day Boys, take that cat away." We lost her in fine style Away from home a mile. We dropped the sack and run As fast as youngsters can. How glad we were to tell We had done our task so well! We opened wide the door-Our cat slept on the floor! - New York World.

WHEN CHINESE CHILDREN CELEBRATE.

When do you suppose the Chinese children fire off torpedoes, sky-rockets and powder-crackers? If you do not know, you would never guess in all the world; so you may as well be told right away. They fire them off on New Year's Day! And when you are told why they celebrate New Year's Day as if it were Fourth of July, you will be still more surprised.

You know the Chinese have a different religion from ours, and because of that they believe many things which we do not believe at all. New Year's Day the firecrackers are set off to keep evil spirits at a distance. The night before the New Year there are special services to the Chinese deity, and at bedtime a pot of rice is left upon the table, covered with cypress leaves.

New Year's Day there are social visits, dinners and family games. And all day long the Chinese youngsters are expected to keep up a firing of fireworks of all kinds to keep off evit spirits .- [The Louger.

#### WINTER NIGHT FUN.

A "peanut hunt" is lots of fun for an evening party. The hostess hides peanuts in all sorts of queer places about the room, sometimes putting two or three nuts in the same place. Then she provides each of her guests with a little basket tied with gay ribbons, and the "hant" begins. After a certain time the "finds" are compared. The one who has the largest number wins the first prize, while the "booby prize" is fittingly awarded to the one having fewest.

Some other trials that are great sport are often introduced; one is to see who can carry the most peanuts in one hand from one table to another. A man ought to win this. Forty-two is said to be a good number by those who have tried it. Of course, the winner is to be rewarded, while the "booby," too, must be con

Another trial consists in carrying potatoes from one table to another in a table or a ten spoon. The potatoes, which should be round and big, are better put on a table with a polished top. The one who can carry most potatoes from one table to the other in a given time wins. The tables must be far apart. It is not easy to scoop up the potato, and once secured it is still difficult to retain.-[New York Advertiser.

# BACK TO BE SHOT.

The order had been issued to Paris in 1871 by the new republican authorities, that communist insurgents who were taken with arms in their hands, should be put to death immediately. So writes a French correspondent. The order was being relentlessly executed, when in the garden of the Elysee Palace, a detachment of republican troops came upon a small band of insurgents. Among them was a boy of fifteen years, still in short

The band was conducted to a large party of communists destined for execution. On the way the fifteen-year-old broke out from among his companions and placed himself in front of the colonel who commanded the escort. Making the military salute with a good deal of grace, he said:

"Mister, you're going to shoot me, I suppose ?"

'Certainly, my lad," said the colonel. "Taken with arms in your hands, it's all up with you. That is the order."

"All right," said the boy. "But see here-I live in Miromesnil street, where my mother is concierge in a house. She'll wait for me if I don't come home, and she'll worry a great deal. I just want to go home and quiet her a bit, you know; and then again, I've got my watch here; I'd like to give it to my mother, so she'll have as much as that, anyway. Come Colonel, let me run home a little while. I give you my word of honor I'll come back to be shot!" The Colonel was struck with astonish-

ment at the boy's demand. It also began to amuse him a good deal. "You give me your word of honor, eh, that you'll return in time to be executed?"

"My word of honor, mister!" "Well, well," said the colonel, "this young scamp has wit as well as assurance. A rather young rebel to shoot, too! Well, his assurance has saved him. Go home.

The youth bowed and scampered off. "The last we shall see of him," said the colonel.

Half an hour passed by; the colonel, who was now indoors in his headquarters, had forgotten, in the press of his terrible business, all about the boy, whom he regarded as having been definitely set But all at once the door opened, and the boy communist popped in.
"Here I am, mister!" he exclaimed.

" I saw mamma, told her, gave her the watch, and kissed her. Now I'm teady!" Then the colonel did what perhaps none but a rough soldier would have done. He rose, came over to the boy, seized him by both care, led him thus to

the door and kicked him out of it, exclaiming: "Get out, you young brigand! Get back to your mother just as quick as you

With a red face the officer returned to his chair, muttering to his companions as he waved his hand toward a party of the condemned insurgents:

',So they have their heroes, thenthose scoundrels!"- Boston Traveller.

THE population of London now ex-ceeds that of New York, Brooklyn, Phil-adelphia and Chicago combined, and these four are the only American cities baving one million or more inhabitants