SPIDER FARM.

SYLVANIA.

An Old Frenchman Sells the Spiders to Wine Merchants -- Making New Bottles Look Like Old.

There is but one spider farm in the United States. As far as a writer for the Philadelphia Press can learn there are only two in the world. One has only to go four miles from Philadelphia on the old Lancaster pike and ask for the farm of Pierre Grantaire to see what can be found nowhere else in this country, and abroad only in a little French village in the department of the Loire.

Pierre Grantaire furnishes spiders at so much per hundred for distribution in the wine vaults of the merstorage is secured at a small cost.

around him.

Old Grantaire has a wonderful vegetable farm, and sends in the choicest "green stuff" that is displayed in the Philadelphia markets. makes a substantial part of Pierre's here with my fortune.' business. It is not to the old man's multi-legged pets cover the walls ly had to leave him to his fate. and weave their gossamer patterns

everywhere. It was a bit shuddering for the visitor, who had been brought up to smash a spider with a slipper or whatever came handiest, to be brought into a room where there were spiders in front of him, spiders to the rear of him, myriads of spiders

on every hand.

The walls were covered by wire squares from six inches to a foot stripped the manufactured lumber they do not really know what they across, like magnified sections of the industry. wire fence used to enclose poultry yards. Behind these wire screens the planking. There were cracks between the boards, apparently left with design, and their weather beaten surfaces were dotted with knotholes and splintered crevices. Long tables running the length of the room were covered with small wire frames. wooden boxes and glass jars. All of these wires in the room were covered over by patterns of lace tracery, in the geometrical outlines fashioned by the spider artists, inspired by the mysterious instinct which has made them weave their filmy snares in the same fashion since the world began. The sunlight streamed through the work. The king of the fairy palace door, and the webs were dotted with black spots as the spiders scampered from their retreats in the wall cracks and a score of villainous looking pets as big as half dollars emerged from their crannies on the table and clustered against their glass roofing.

"They think I feed them now." you. They have brains, these little After you see them and I tell you of them you will never crush them more; you will say, "The spider can teach me something. I will knowledge is worth having. Don't knock him off. He will not bite to make your acquaintance.'

You wish to know of the busi- extreme. ness first? That is like you people -money first, then the sentiment. There are 2,000 spiders in this room, all raising families and minding their wisdom of the doubt is shown. Nickel own business. Is not that a teach- steel has greater tensile strength than ing to the world and a lesson already? plain steel, and therefore allows the You see, in these frames I breed my pets, and when the infants are big Ailsa's frames are also of nickel enough to run about I take them in- steel, and it would not be at to the next room, where they can set | all surprising to find that the frames up for themselves, as you say. It is of the new Herreshoff cup defender from there I sell most. They are are of the same material. Exact in- to-day. great cannibals, my pets; they eat formation on the latter point is not their children and the children each obtainable, but the cup defender's other. So I must get a good price frames are certainly very light in for those that survive their child- color for plain steel, and come much

" It is not all kinds of spiders that make webs. There are those that live in holes in the ground, and make | indicate the use of nickel steel. for themselves trap doors, and some make soft nests in cracks, while others spin small homes in the grass or in the room corner. No, indeed; I have sought out kinds that weave in the wine cellar or on the bouteille. They are the selected ones.

ty, thirty or forty years ago, some building three days to arrange everyyear of a grand vintage. He tells me thing in the rooms that are to be so many hundred bottles. I know turned over to public use next sum-A QUEER INDUSTRY IN PENN- how many of my pets will soon cover mer. his cellar in cobwebs of the finest old kfnd. I put them in little small paper boxes, a pair in a box. I ship them in a crate, with many holes for Perilous Adventure of a Hunter in air. Maybe I send two, three, four hundred spiders. For them I ask half a franceach. \$10 for every hundred. In two months you would think this cellar was not disturbed for the last fifty years. It has cost him \$40 or \$50 maybe, but he may sell the wine for \$1,000-yes, more than that-above what they had brought without my pets had dressed the bottles in the robes of long ago."

Wanted to Die Rich.

Many years ago, according to one of the varns of the sea told by marinchant and the nouveaux riche. His ers who claimed to have been prestrade is chiefly with the wholesale ent. a little British ship having on merchant, who is able to stock a cel- board a large consignment of Spanish | heard a cry for help, and immedilar with new, shining, freshly dollars for a house in Rio Janeiro labelled bottles, and in three months was wrecked on the Brazilian coast. see them veiled in filmy cobwebs, so | Hoping to save some of his precious that the effect of twenty years of cargo the Captain ordered one of the casks containing the gold brought on The Lancaster pike is an old, old deck, but the vessel was so badly highway that trembled to the tramp wrecked by the continuous poundof marching columns in the Revolu- ing on the rocks that it was soon ing would cause it to pass within tion. In one of the low, stone farm- found necessary to take to the boats fifty yards of Langford, and the houses, huge as to chimney, lives without any of the treasure. As the latter resolved to attempt to shoot Pierre Grantaire, a veteran of the last boat was about to leave the ill-French army, who was conscripted fated craft, one of the officers to as a middle aged man from his make sure that no one was left on might hit Harn, but felt it was the father's farm in '70 to fight the board, went back to make a last tour Prussians. For ten years he has of the ship. To his surprise, sitting lived here, a rather unique figure beside one & the casks with a hatchamong the matter of fact farmers et in his hand, he found one of the Langford took careful aim and fired. sailors.

"We came within an ace of going off

without you. "I'm not going," replied the sail-His neighbors know that he is a or, giving the cask a hearty whack market gardener, and also raises with the hatchet, bursting it open, shreds by either the hoofs of the mushrooms, and rather envy him and laughing with delight as the coin deer or the brush. While suffering the returns from his squabs, that poured out around him. "I've al- much agony from his injuries, Harn retail at sixty cents a pair this time | ways wanted to die rich. I've been | will recover. of year. But few of them know of poor all my life, and this is my first the spider raising industry, which and last chance. Go aheai, I'll stay fell, and supposing the animal dead

interest to have this advertised, and could not persuade the fellow to feet and darted at him. Harn inhe seldom takes a caller into the two leave the gold with which he played stinctively threw his arms about the rooms of his dwelling where his as a child with marbles, and he final- deer's neck and then came the ride

Wood Pulp.

More than 50 per cent, of the saw mill owners to-day would make more money to sell their logs to be manufactured into wood pulp and paper than they can possibly expect to secure through sales of the same in the form of manufactured lumber. The who can answer any question that is wood pulp industry has far out- put to them, and sometimes when

One factor in the pulp and pa business is not always recognized by of these persons was once a keeper of walls had been covered with rough the owners of spruce forests. When the London Zoo. He was pestered a pulp mill grinds up a million feet to death by the questions which peoof logs into paper product, and the ple asked, but he always gave an ansame is sold to the great newspaper swer. On a recent occasion a councorporations and printed upon day tryman strolled in, and after looking after day, that paper practically goes | curiously at the camel for a few moout of existence. Few think of sav- ments he turned to the keeper and ing a newspaper The individual said newspaper reader throws his paper, after reading, into the waste basket hump for?" or kindles a fire with it, or it becomes the property of the old junk dealer, repeated the keeper. and practically passes out of existence. On the other hand the piece of lumber which is manufactured goes into a substantial building. him, of course," replied the keeper, which lasts for generations. So that after some hesitation, "People open door and the room seemed hung the great consumption of spruce for wouldn't travel miles to see him if he pulp and paper really amounts to so didnt have that hump. Fact is. much raw material taken out of the without it he might as well be a rapped his stubby pipe against the market forever, and practically cow. wasted, so far as any subsequent use to which it may be applied is concerned. - Manufacturers Gazette.

Nickel Steel Frames.

The construction of the yacht Valsaid Pierre, "but I fool them for kyrie III. is at last definitely known. She is of composite build, with keel, creatures. Ah, they are cunning! stem, sternpost and deadwoods of teak; frames, stringers and ties of nickel steel and wood planking. The keel was cast about March 4; the wood keel has been bolted to the watch him. He is a diplomat, an lead, and the stem and sternpost set architect, a mathematician. His up, the frames riveted and set up and the ribbands run. In model the new boat is similar to Britannia and you. They are harmless. He wishes Valkyrie, a keel cutter, but with her leading features carried to a greater

The original report that she was to be plated with nickel steel was doubted at the time, and now the use of a smaller and lighter frame. nearer nickel steel in looks.

They are also of unusually small size, and this would seem to further

Lonely Mont Blanc.

The highest peak in Europe, Mont Blanc, has been ascended thirty-nine | in assent. themselves fine large webs of lines times in 1894. Fifty-eight persons and circles. They only look artistic reached the summit. Among them were eighteen French, fourteen with girls-plural, remember?" Americans, fourteen English, eight "A customer comes to me. He is Germans, two Russians, one Austria wine merchant from New York or an, and one Swiss. Three ladies little miss. "Please, ma'am," she Philadelphia, or perhaps he writes. braved the cold, the hardships and said, with all the assurance of a He says that he has just stocked a difficulties, so as to be numbered primitive reasoning, "I can give a cellar with five-year-old portor Bur- among the successful tourists. The sentence. 'Girls, are my hat on gundy, or something else. The bot- last ascension in 1894 was made on straight?'' tles have been brushed clean in ship- November 4 by Guide Payot and three ping. They look new and common. | carriers, who carried up the scientific | They will not sell for old wine. He instruments for the observatory on two flexible gold bands composes a

RODE A DEER.

Florida.

James L. Harn, of Fort Myers, Fla., took a Mazeppalike ride on the neck of a deer that came near costing him his life.

Mr. Harn and Dr. T. E. Langford were out hunting, when they saw a fine buck quietly feeding half a mile away. It was agreed that Harn should stalk the deer, while Langford remained with the horses.

Accordingly Harn dismounted and began to approach the deer, which, in the meantime, had moved so that it was no longer visible.

After half an hour Langford heard a shot and supposed Harn had killed the deer. A few minutes later he ately after saw the deer come tearing through the brush with Harn clinging to its neck.

At every bound Harn was being terribly lacerated by the sharp hoofs of the deer and the brush. The direction in which the deer was movthe animal as it came by

The doctor realized that the bullet only chance to save his friend's life. Accordingly, as the buck with its human burden came bounding past The shot was successful, and with "Hurry up!" cried the officer. the next bound the deer fell dead.

Langford hastened to Harn's aid. and found him in a terribly lacerated condition. His clothing had been torn from him and his skin cut to

Harn says when he fired the deer he approached to cut its throat. As Argue as he might, the officer he reached the buck it sprang to its through the brush. Harn was afraid to let go, lest the buck should paw him to death.

Dr. Langford's shot was a lucky one, the bullet entering just behind the shoulder of the deer.

The Use of the Hump.

There are some men in this world ,are talking about they will give answers that are not at all bad. One

' say, mister, what's he have a "What does he have a hump for?"

'Yes. What's the good of it?"

asked the visitor. "Why-er-it makes a camel of

The stranger departed very well

satisfied.

Percentage of Successful Novels.

The simple fact of the matter is that if, say, two novels out of every hundred submitted are accepted, not more than ten novels out of every hundred published ever pay the author for his trouble. A novel must sell at least 5,000 copies before it brings the author any suitable remuneration for the time and pains spent upon the work of writing it. And, if it were possible to compute careful figures of the number of novels of which 5,000 copies are sold, the smallness of the percentage would amaze the public. Even the novels of well known writers do not always reach this figure in their sales. If the facts could be given it would be surprising to people what really small editions of novels of some of the best known writers are printed-especially at first. And the novels which get beyond their first edition nowadays are very, very few and far between. And yet the novel is really the most productive form of writing

A Study in Grammar.

A teacher in one of the lower grades of a city school was endeavoring to impress upon her pupils the fact that a plural subject takes a verb in the plural.

'Remember this," she said ; l'girls are, boys are; a girl is, a boy is. Now, do you understand it?" Every hand in the room was raised

'Weil, then.'' continued the teach-"who can give me a sentence

This time only one hand was raised, and that belonged to a pretty

A chain of small daisies between has attached to them labels of twen- the summit. They remained at the new bracelet of an admired style.

JOHNSON'S INAUGURATION.

The Vice President Was Not Sober When He Took the Oath.

Noah Brooks tells the following story in his personal reminiscences of Lincoln in the Century :

All eyes were turned to the main entrance, where, precisely on the stroke of 12, appeared Andrew Johnson, Vice President elect, arm in arm with Hannibal Hamlin, whose term of office was now expiring. They took seats together on the dais of the presiding officer, and Hamlin made a brief and sensible speech, and Andrew Johnson, whose face was extraorordinarily red, was presented to take the oath. It is needless to say here that the unfortunate gentleman, who had been very ill, was not altogether sober at this most important moment of his life. In order to strengthen himself for the physical and mental ordeal through which he was about to pass he had taken a stiff drink of whisky in the room of the Vice President, and the warmth of the Senate chamber, together with other physical conditions, had sent the fiery liquor to his brain. He was evidently intoxicated.

As he went on with his speech, he turned upon the cabinet officers and addressed them as "Mr. Stanton," "Mr. Seward," etc., without the official handles to their hames. Forgetting Mr. Welles' name, he said, "and you, too, Mr."-then leaning over to Col. Forney, he said. What is the name of the Secretary of the Navy?" and then continued as though nothing had happened. Once in a while, from the reporter's gallery, I could observe Hamlin nudging Johnson from behind, reminding him him that the hour for the inauguration ceremony had passed. The speaker kept on, although President Lincoln sat before him, patiently waiting for his extraordinary harangue to be

over. The study of the faces below was interesting. Seward was as bland and serene as a summer day; Stanton appeared to be petrified; Welles' face was usually void of any expression; Speed sat with his eyes closed; Dennison was red and white by turns. Among the Union Senators Henry Wilson's face was flushed; Sumner wore a saturnine and sarcastic smile; and most of the others turned and twisted in their senatorial chairs as if in long drawn agony. Of the Supreme Bench, Judge Nelson only was apparently moved, his lower jaw being dropped clean down in blank horror. Chase was marble, adamant. granite in immobility until Johnson turned his back upon the Senate to take the oath when he exchanged glances with Nelson, who then

closed up his mouth. audibly the oath of office, his hand prisoner in the hands of the soldiers upon the book, he turned and took the Bible in his hand, and facing the audience, said with a loud, theatrical voice and gesture, "I kiss this book in the face of my nation of the United States.

ODD OLD CUSTOMS.

Not so very long ago the bridegroom in a Hungarian peasant wedding gave the bride a kick as a part of the ceremony, thus symbolizing her future subjection.

The lord of the manor of Oakham, England, can demand from every peer passing through his realm the near fore shoe of his horse. Even royalty is not exempt, though ornamental shoes are now used instead of real ones.

expression arising out of the curious old custom of "the Dunmow flitch," awarded annually to a couple willing to go on their knees on two sharppointed stones and swear that they haven't quarreled for a year and a lay after their marriage.

In the old town of Bristol, R. I., Guv Fawkes Day is still celebrated with the customary English bonfires by Yankee boys who can have no idea of the reason of the celebration. Some have claimed that the election bonfire custom grew out of Guy Fawkes Day elsewhere in this coun-

A Magnifying Show Window.

One of the most extraordinary devices for attracting custom on record was that of a fruiterer in a Midland town. Instead of the ordinary plate glass, a large number of rough magmifying glasses formed the window. Seen through one of these panes an orange looked as large as a pumpkin, and cherries as large as apples. A great disadvantage attaching to this novelty was the fact that at the distance of a few yards from the window it was quite impossible to see into the window. Everybody knows that you must hold a magnifying glass very close to the eyes to see any thing through it. Nevertheless, for some time, at all events, the enterprising proprietor did a roaring trade.

The Year of the Wolves.

During the severe weather, which lasted so long this year, wolves have been making their appearance in great numbers. They have been seen in Brittany wandering about separately and in bands over regions which hitherto they had not dared to approach, and in some districts they were intrepid enough to enter the farmyards, and actually terrorized the inhabitants. Not far from the forest of Hunanday a farmer was attacked by one of these famishing beasts, and only secured an escape by means of a dagger which he fortunately possessed.

POPULAR SCIENCE.

Boston has an electric carriage. Sulphate of zinc is used to render molasses a pure amber color.

Several British scientists claim individual credit for the discovery of argon. Woman has not only a less mortality but greater longevity than man. There is also a plurality of female births.

An English surgeon recently hollowed out a new socket for an artificial eye, the old one not being large enough.

It is said that moths will not attack green fabrics. Arsenic is used in dyeing green, and the moths are wise enough to shun that deadly drug.

The French Engineer Delebacque estimates that the river Rhone carries as much as 750,000 tons of mineral matter into the lake of Geneva every year.

A writer in the Chautauquan says that birds are guided in their migration by the stars, and therefore on nights when stars are hidden by clouds they always lose their way.

Seattle, Wash., is now the seat of a State bacteriological laboratory for the examination of the germs of consumption, diphtheria and other diseases, and some valuable work has already been done in the examination of the water supply of the city for germs of typhoid fever.

That our opinion of the color of an object is formed by our perceiving that certain constituents are absent in it, is the conclusion reached by Herr Vogel in a paper before the Berlin Physical Society. Experimenting with oil lamps provided with pure red, green, and blue color screens, he found that when white light was rigidly excluded the observers lost all sense of color, and could distinguish only shades of black and white in objects in the room. A scale of colors illumined by red light showed the reds as white or gray; when blue light was added the reds became yellow and could not be distinguished from the yellows on the scale.

The Kissing of the Hand.

From the remotest times men saluted the sun, moon and stars by kissing the hand. The ancient Romans made the kiss of salutation by kissing the tips of the fingers to every person whom they met. Kissing the hand was a mark of respect. Subjects formerly kissed the knees of their superiors and the feet or the Chief Pontiff. Kissing the priest's hand was usual when making offerings. To the gods the rich made various sacrifices, but the poor adored them by simply kissing the hand. In illustration of this, When Johnson had repeated in- it is told of Demosthenes that when a of Antipater, he asked to be allowed to enter a temple. When he entered he touched his mouth with his hands. which the guards took for an action of religion. He did it, however, more securely to swallow the poison he had prepared for the occasion. The Romans treated as Atheists persons who would not kiss their hands on entering a temple. Under the Roman Emperors it became an esseutial duty, even for the great them-

Inferior courtiers were obliged to be content to show their respect by kneeling, touching the robe of the Emperor by the right hand and carrying it to the mouth. But after a time even this was considered too great a favor, and they were compelled to salute the Emperor at a distance by kissing their hands in the same man-He "just saved his bacon" is an ner that they adored their gods. It was a custom with the primeval bishops to give their hands to be kissed by the ministers who served at the altar. Cortez found the custom established in Mexico, where more than a thousand lords saluted him by touching the earth with their hands, which they afterward carried to their mouths. At the beginning of the century the custom was carried to such an excess, and became so common that the better classes for a time abandoned the practice, which eventually fell into disuse generally. Indeed, according the one authority, the custom would have been entirely lost "if lovers were not solicitous to preserve it in all its full power."

The Woman in the Case.

One very warm day in the mountains of Tennessee I rode up to a house where there was a woman drawing a bucket of water with an old-fashioned well sweep, and asked if she would give me a drink. She was only too glad to be hospitable, and brought me out a gourdful. As I drank it slowly and with evident relish, she watched me curiously. "Purty good critter you air ridin',"

she ventured "Thank you, yes; he belongs to a

friend of mine.' "Purty nice looking yerself," she added, in quite the same tone she had used in speaking of the horse.

"Thanks," I responded, surprised into blushing, but she never noticed it. "Air you married?" she went on.

"No; I'm a bachelor." "Reckon yer erbout ez well off that way; p'raps a leetle better. I'm mar-

ried myself." "Well, I think it would have been a great improvement over my present condition if I had married some good, sensible girl ten years ago and settled down. I'm sure I should have been a much happier man."

She thought for a minute before anewering.

"Likely," she said, at last; "but how'd the woman be feelin' by now?" Of course I had an argument to offer, out when I went away ten minutes later I could see plainly she was thinking

about the woman in the case.

Art of Saying Hard Things. Mr. Froude said Carlyle was fond of saying exactly what he thought of people, and never fancled it would hurt them. Naturally, much pain was given when these utterances were published and came to people in that cold, fixed form, and without the great guffaws of laughter which took off much of their harshness when said.

"There was Mrs. Proctor," said Froude: "I believe I grieved her very much in the publishing of the 'Reminiscences.' She never forgave me. It was that word 'menagerie,' as applied to her mother's house, that did the mischief."

I laughed, and added, "But it was such a capital word," and he laughed

"Carlyle," he said, "simply saw things and people as they were, and so did Mrs. Carlyle. She had a description in one of her letters of Browning which would have driven the poet wild, and I asked Carlyle on one occasion if I should publish it, and he said. 'Aye! aye! why not? It cannot do the man any harm to know what a sensible woman thought of him.' But," added Froude, with a keen look at me. you see I didn't publish it!"

"Carlyle disliked Wordsworth," said roude. "He said Wordsworth was ilways looking at people as through the wrong end of a powerful telescope, seeing them clearly, but exceedingly small-exactly as Carlyle sometimes did himself. and Mrs. Carlyle, too."-

New Way to Fell Trees.

Trees are now felled by electricity in the great forests of Galicia. For cutting comparatively soft woods, the tool is in the form of an augur, which is mounted on a carriage, and is moved to and fro and revolved at the same time by a small electric motor. As the cut deepens, wedges are inserted to prevent the rift from closing, and when the tree is nearly cut through an ax or hand-saw is used to finish the work. In this way trees are felled very rapidly, and with very little labor.

Very Costly.

In many things which make life burdensome, it is not merely the discomforts we icel, but the loss of time and money. Among minor accidents, none are more liable to cause this than a sprain. Very many serious cases are known that have cost a life-time of misery and very much in time and money. Much of this is owing to neglect. St. Jacobs Oil, used promptly on the worst case of prain, will cure it as surely as it is used. It s the best, and needs only the care and atention of applying it in good time to make the cure effective and permanent.

Jonabad Almanor, the famous linguist, uld converse in twenty-seven different anguages.

I can recommend Piso's Cure for Consumption to sufferers from Asthma. —E. D. Townsend, Ft. Howard, Wis., May 4, 1894.

Every new pair of shoes usually derelops a new pair of corns.

Your First Duty is to Yourself. Your Bodily Condition Calls for the Help to be Found in a Good

Spring Medicine The best Preparation for this Purpose is

Hood's Sarsaparilla Spring is the season for cleansing | "I cannot speak too highly of Hood's Sar-

strong nerves, a good appetite, refresh ways speak in its favor." LLOYD B. CHASE, ing sleep, and powers of endurance. Swansen, Massachusetts.

Cleanse your blood by taking Hood's Hood's Sarsaparilla, a renovating preparation especially prepared to make pure blood, then you may enjoy the season of flowers and birds and out door strong and well.

Hood's Pills cure all liver ills, billions-

and renewing the blood. During the saparilla, as it has worked wonders in my winter it has crept sluggishly through | case. 1 am 74 coars of age and have been the viens, gathering impurities from afflicted with salt rheum on my hands for a indoor air, from fatty substances in great many years. I tried many things to the food, and from many other sources. | cure them but failed. My hands would crack The great blood purifying medicine open and bleed profusely, and the pain was especially prepared to do this work is terrible to bear. Since taking Hood's Sarsa-Hood's Sarsaparilla. It will give to parilla the flesh has healed and the skin is as the blood purity, richness and vitality smooth as any farmer's. I recommend Hood's and these will bring health and vigor, Sarsaparilla as a reliable medicine and al-

Is the Only pleasures, for you will be healthy, True Blood Purifier

Prominantly in the public eye today. Be