No One Knows Where the Game Originated.

GLD AND NEW METHODS OF PLAY

Chful Story About the Explosion of 6 Composition Ball-A Few Pointers About the Game-The Great Schneler and lite Playing.

time on the game of billiards became a

very popular one. It pleased the fickle fancy of the French, and thus became a permanent

According to history, Mary Queen of Scots was a lover of the game, and was allowed the privilege of a table during her imprisonment. It was taken away from her

For two centuries billiards was played with only two balls, when the red ball was im-ported from France. The cushions down to a recent date were lined with felt. The

came as played in America is entirely dif-ferent from the old game as played in Eng-land. The tables in common use are of three

ether substances with the greatest care. A table with poor cushions is an abomination. The combination cushions now in use were patented in 1854 by Michael Phelan, a famous patented in 1854 by Michael Phelan, a famous patented in 1854 by Michael Phelan a famous patented in 1854 by Michael Phelan are made

American player. The best balls are made of the finest East India ivory. Composition balls are also used by second hand pool rooms,

but they don't flud favor with experts. The

story that is pretty old, but good enough to

About twenty years ago Jim Furlong kept a billiard room in Quincy, Ills. Among the players who used to meet there were Sam Furlong, his brother, and Bill Morgan, a Ministalized silled.

swear, run down the table, balls and play-

ers, and eventually throw up his cue. As the story goes, he and Furlong were engaged in a game and using the first set of composition balls introduced into Quincy. Bill had been having a bad run of luck, the balls would kiss

ion least expected, or go off at an entirely ferent angle to that anticipated. Bill was rking himself into an articipated.

working himself into an awful stew. Curses loud and long flowed from his mouth as sweetly and easily as water from a mountain pring. At last in the middle of a run he got

balls in a position where a table shot ald be likely to bunch them; he attempted

ject ball rolled up against it ned the shot. Enraged with disap-nt, he struck the cue ball a ter-

welt with the butt end of his

LOUIS XIV.

Water, where they sizzled and sputtered. When picked out cold they had turned from

by a well known authority on billiards, who

The first thing a beginner should learn is to

bold his cue properly. One can't play the violin unless able to bow, much less can he play billiards unless he hold his cue properly. The cue should be loosely held near the butt

The cue should be loosely held near the butt by the right hand, and should be kept as

ly on a level with the table as possible

Jacob Schaefer is a born billiard player, and

on in form plays a remarkably showy and

friends wherever he goes, but he is un-

are there are shots where it is impossi-

make them with the cue in that posi

its to black. Composition balls were dis-ded after that. This story is vouched for

It jumped the table, rolled along the

to his satisfaction he would con

t of composition balls brings to mind a

ppi pilot, a very profane man and an billiardist. If the game didn't pro-

tly before her execution. So much for



whether we are indebted to France or Italy for the invention of bill-iards, but it is certain that it was imported hither from the former country. All the ac-counts of its having been Emperor Caliguia, or havcountry. An the secondary of its having been introduced by the Emperor Caligula, or having existed during the consulatip of the Roman Lucultus, cannot be substantiated. It must have been known to Englishmen as early as the Sixteenth century, since Shake-speare speaks of it, although when he represents Cleopatra as amusing herself with the game be probably commits an anachronism. The first reliable accounts are from certain manuscripts once the property of Sir Reginald Mortinser, one of the Knights Templar who returned from the first crurade and afterward joined the second one, led by Richard Cœur de Leon. According to these manuscripts the game was introduced by the Enights, and was viewed with great favor as a healthful recreation. After a time interest in the game languished and finally died out entirely, and it was not revived until Louis XI ascended the throne of France. From this time on the game of billiards became a

Here is where the real enjoyment comes in —when one has arrived at the stage where he can appreciate the fine plays of the experts, although unable to imitate them. All can't be Schaefers or Ole Bulla. Jake is nervy—another thing for beginners to remember. In Chicago, in 1883, Vignaux had only 92 points to go, and Jake had 103.

He was cool and steady when he took his turn, playing his first shot with his left hand and following it up with some fine and difficult masse shots, run out and won the game, which was worth \$6,000 to \$7,000 to him, besides the title of champion. sides the title of champion.

An inferior player whose nerve is good at the start can often beat a good player by

getting an early lead in the game, too great to be overcome when the better player pulls himself together. There is always excitement connected with the game, but the man of nerve has a great advantage over the less fortunate player. Many a brilliant exhibition player goes to pieces in a match and is beaten by his own lack of nerve. When playing a game give your undivided atten-tion to it; don't go running about the room talking to Tom, Dick and Harry. It is not uncommon for a player to improve so that in two weeks he is able to give odds to a man who first interested him in the game. A be ginner who has a natural knack for the game may defeat, after a week's practice, the man who discounted him at first

A HOME FOR THE CYCLERS. The Handsome New House of the Chicago Wheeling Club.

hortly before her execution. So much for he origin of the game. George Washington and Alexander Hamil-ion were both good players and possessed lables in their private houses. In the an-assed cut Thomas Jefferson, Alexander Ham-liton and Lafayette are represented as par-ticipants in the game, of which George Washington is a spectator. Lafayette was accustomed to billiards in France. For two centuries billiards was played with The new club house of the Chicago Cycling club is situated at the east end of the Ro salie apartment block, on Fifty-seventh street, opposite South Park station, and within a block of the main entrance to Jackson park. It is very easy of access on all sides, being connected with all the principal drives and boulevards on the south side, while for reception and entertainment pur poses a good livery service and both Illinois Central suburban trains and cable cars are only a block away.



The building is of pressed brick whitestone mings, and consists of three stories and basement, 40 by 70 feet. The basement contains a wheel room, tool room, kitchen and janitor's apartments. The floor is concrete and the whole is well adapted for get ting in and out with wheels. floor, which is finished entirely in hard wood are the members' lounging room, office, library, smoking and dining rooms, also a large parlor or reception room, having two arched entrances, to the right of the main staircase. These two large rooms can be thrown together for dancing, giving a hall about 40 by 40 feet, and the whole floor can be used if necessary.

The billiard, card and directors' rooms on

the second floor are made very attractive to the members, who are exceptionally interested in this department. The third floor is di vided into six apartments, to rent to bach members, or for other purposes that pay be necessary later on.

second and third floors there is a grand view of a large part of Jackson park, and parts the lake seen through the openings in the trees; also an excellent view of the best residence district of the city

The cost of the building was over \$25,000. The social standing of its membership is of the choicest, and it can claim as its members a dozen or more of the oldest and best known American cyclists. The Chicago club has been remarkably victorious on the road and path, and it has the champion team in Amer-ica, which won its title in Buffalo in 1888.

OBSERVATIONS ON WHIST.

Some Points on Learning the Game-The Hest and Quickest Way. In large cities teachers of the game of whist are enabled at present, such is the popularity of the game, to earn quite resectable competencies at their calling lake dancing masters, they charge a fixed figure per lesson and agree to give in a cer-tain number of lessons a good working knowledge of the game. The average Amer who perhaps in temperament is half way between the stolid Englishman and the nercurial Frenchman, wants, when he takes a fancy to a thing, to learn all there is about in the quickest possible way, and he is perfectly willing to pay for it, if he doesn't happen to be too poor, so that in America, when any new fad is "sprung" on the people, there is rapidly de-veloped a number of experts, and it is wonderful what proficiency Americans attain at a new game in a short time. Witness, for inthe roller skating craze, and how quickly in every town in the country there foor at a terrific pace, struck the base board, exploded with a loud report and set the wood work on fire, after which the pieces danced about the floor. The attendant picked them up with a shovel and put them in a bucket of them the pieces they sixtle and support they rose a local champion. Now, whist is not exactly a fad. It is a more lasting amuse ment. But as siciety becomes welded together in America the game grows more popular among that class who are anxious for intellectual pleasure. The question which is more often asked me than any other by novices in the game is, 'How soon can I learn it?' and I propose to answer this question as well as it can be answered. In the first place, whist can never be learned perfectly, and this is one reason why it is so fascinating. There is al-ways something more ahead. It is a comnon expression in whist text books that almost any one can, by practice, get up to a certain point, but beyond that few can go. This is undoubtedly true, for whist is like any other art-like music, or painting, or writing. One must first grasp a certain num-ber of facts; must learn them so perfectly that the are second nature, and then that

tion. The bridge formed by the left hand should rest firmly and steadily on the table, about six inches from the cue ball. The stroke of the cue should be given by the force of subtle something which some call genius steps in and puts them to the highest t of the cue should be given by the force of the wrist and forearm only. Right here is where most players make their mistake by playing with the whole arm, and banging as if to knock splinters out of the balls and flat-What the beginner in whist wants to know is not how he can become a great whist slayer-no one can show him that-but how e can in the shortest time acquire all the the cushiona
t should always be borne in mind that skill
d quickness, rather than muscular strength,
required. There are, however, many
say shots which experts do where muscle
tys an important part. It is, of course, immible to give directions here. facts so perfectly that he will use them involuntarily. A child learns a language not by any process of reasoning, but by memory. Indeed, the best way for an adult to learn a give directions here for any of ods by which bal's can be made to

language is to memorize so many words a day until he gots vocabulary enough to swim in. This is only a question of memory, and this is the most popular way of learning whist and apparently the best. The beginner learns rules and then certain more rules. nd by he knows them all, and then whenever he makes a play he runs his mento the right one, presses it and he plays

the card. Of course, if he has got ordinary intelligence he can't help but draw certain conclusions, but the point about this method of play is that it's parrot play and nothing else. You begin on memory and your reason in due course of time is bound to assert itself. What you want to do is to begin on reason and use your memory as an aid. Learn the theory of the game first. Learn why you should play second hand low and third hand high. Twenty-six cards, divided into two groups are pitted against twenty-six other cards divided into two more groups. Read Pole's essay and find out why cortain lines of play are reasonable and logical. Think it over and get the general theory of the game lodged in your mind. Then go into details, and this is where your memory comes into play. to the tricks of the trade. It is related that once on a time when Schaefer and Beaunger were to play an exhibition game of 600 points, straight rail, Beaunger worked himself into a terrible stew because his favorite cue was missing. "Never mind, Jack," said Schaefer in an undertone, "perhaps you won't need it." Whereupon Schaefer won the bank, counted from the lay off and ran the game out.

Play.
The best and quickest way to learn the game is to reason out every rule as you come to it. Then you will not only know it, bu

NEW FASILIONS FOR MALES

OLIVE HARPER WRITES OF CLOTHES FOR MEN AND BOYS. To the Feminise Eye Men's Apparel Is

Always Practically the Same, Though There Really Are Changes-The Overcoats That Are in Style Now. (Special Correspond NEW YORK, Oct. 17 .- If the artists

who design men's fashions would only take real men and not wax figures for models the task of the fashion writer would be easier, for who could be expected to grow enthusiastic about wax works, particularly when there are so many pretty and living women to write

To the feminine eye there is no apparent change in men's clothes, unless the attention is especially called to points of difference. One point was shown in the short overcoat made of chinchilla beaver for business wear. It looks as if it might be very comfortable, but is not so dignified as the longer coat of the gen



MEN'S NEW OVERCOATS. tleman on the right. But what poor feeble words of mine could do justice to the beautiful object in the Inverness coat and dress suit who, with his white gloved hands holding an opera glass, is just ready for the opera! Lovely crea-

Attention is called to the elegance of the satin lapel to his dress coat. The tailor who furnished me these details also said that the newest gloves are in Eiffel red, which is a rusty, brick dust color. Cravats are four-in-hand, teck and a loose and sourf. Trousers are neither loose nor or his, and boots are rather long and pointed at the toes. White silk handkerchiefs are used in preference, large and with hemstitched borders. Collars are various, according to taste. For evening, white lawn or narrow bias satin ties are worn. The Prince Albert and cutaway coats in some slight variations will be worn all the winter. The lapels to the coats are wider and more pointed. and the collars rather higher, indicating a leaning toward the directoire styles in much the same, only extremists wear a rather small, close silk bat. Derbya hold their popularity, with the brim rolled a little closer than last season. Little fur will be worn by the gentlemen except for driving. Little boys, however, will have cuff-

and collars of astrakban and beaver on their overcoats, with bandsome Brande bourgs across the front. When a boy has worn the first freshness off an overcoat a careful mother can buy half a vard of astrakhan for seventy-five cents and a set of Brandebourgs, and with an hour's work make it handsomer than it was be fore by making cuffs and collars which hide the worn places. This information is based upon successful experience. The Fauntleroy suits are seldom seen now, and I guess the boys are glad of it, for the sashes were much in their way. A very pretty suit for out doors for a boy of 5 to 7 is shown in the center figure in the group with this letter.

It is really overcoat or kilt, according to the material it is made of. If of cash mere, or camels' hair, or ladies' cloth, it is suitable for the house. Of velvet or beaver cloth, for outdoor wear, and it should be warmly lined. The model is slate gray beaver cloth, with olive green plush facings and belt. Leggings of dark cloth are to be worn for cold days. The Tam o' Shanter cap should be of the same material as the coat. For a boy o twelve or thirteen an overcoat should reach about to the knees, and this style has the seams laid flat and stitched.

Stockings for children are of heavy ribbed wool, with double heels and toes, and double also over the knees. The person who will invent something to save or make stockings more durable will have done a greater thing than he who writes a book, selah!



There will be more bright colors worn by children this winter than heretofore. There are many new and very brilliant colors adapted particularly to children, and it is well, for though children always look pretty, yet they should always be associated with everything bright and

There is a lovely purplish crimson called petunia which shows off the pearly fairness of a child's skin wonderfully. and there are some rich and pleasing dark and light blues, which are very becoming to children, and there is a great variety of material in Turkey red, and a deep saffron yellow. While these will not be used together, separately and trimmed with black they will be very

Here is a unique Masonic event. On board the special train which conveyed the M. W. grand master and his officers to New Castle, New South Wales, for the banquet, every one was a Mason. The engine driver, fireman, guard and conductor, as also the servants attending his excellency, were all Ma-

What is Going On of Interest in Amusement Circles.

SUDDEN DEATH OF ACTOR BISHOP

He Died as He Had Lived, in Harne Something About the Late Mme. Albertine, the Blind Actress - Concerning Joseph Haworth.

Two tragedles of the stage have come to light within the past few weeks. Not of the kind that end with the dropping of the curkind that end with the dropping of the cur-tain on the last act, but more real than ever were writ by playwright. Two tragedies of real life, in one of which the fact that a theatre where comedy was supposed to hold the boards formed the stage setting, but served to enhance its tragic qualities.



Not long ago a large audience gathered in the Lyceum theatre in New York to see E. H. Sothern and his company play "Lord Chumley." The piece is a bright one, and the actors and actresses do their work well. Charles B. Bishop took the part of "Adam Butterworth," a bluff, good natured, retired tradesman, who insists on "larity, larity, my boy," even though the tears are in his eyes and his voice trembles with grief as he mays it. Bishop as "Adam Butterworth" was always a favorite with the audiences, and when he left the stage that night at the end of his first scene, after having advised two young women in the good humored manner in which he played the part, the spectators were in a particularly happy mood. As he made his exit he said, chuckling, the words: "Healthy, wealthy and wise. Oh, lord! he

The words were scarcely spoken when he staggered, gasped and fell in a faint where the wings barely screened him from the sight of the spectators. Willing hands carried him to the nearest dressing room, where was placed in a chair. Messengers were sent for a physician, and the little group in the dress-ing room waited silently. The merry voices of the people on the stage went down to a sub-dued murmur. Presently the tinkle of the signal for lowering the curtain and the fol-lowing applause and laughter of the audience reached the dressing room. Then the doctor arrived. Mr. Bishop was still supported in the chair, a ghastly paller showing through the paint of his make up. The doctor lifted one of the white hands and held it for an instant. Then he let it drop gently down again

"The man is dead," said he. Beside the chair stood Bishop's wife, who was also a member of the company. stared at the doc-

Not one of the creased by all the the company, could "the doctor"-they ometimes called him that - was What a scene it

was! Grouped about the dead man stood the players, each dressed in all the trappings of his part The polished French villain, the burglar, the bad man's victim, a bevy of young women and the dead man's wife; Sothern, as the elegant little Lord Chumley. "Healthy, went back to them. The exquisite pathos of his end, dying as be did in harness, the rude and unexpected shock dealt by Grim Death to the widow, brought tears to every eye.

Truly a tragedy of the stage, but played behind the scenes! Charles Bishop was born at Baltimore fifty-six years ago, studied medicine, received a doctor's diploma and served as a surgeon in the southern army during the civil war. Be-fore the war he had made a theatrical debut at Ford's theatre, in New York, and he returned to the stage and played throughout the country with various organizations loss of his son a short time ago gave him his death blow. He was a rough but effective actor, and his best parts were Pistol, with Rignold, and the burlesque Blueskin, with

Nat Goodwin. MME. ALBERTINE, THE BLIND ACTRESS The life and death of Mme. Albertine, the blind actress, also had its tragic charaistics. Her name was Hanna Manchester, and she was born fifty-eight years ago in Rhode Island. She married a circus performer when she was 15 years old and with him on the road; but she did not make her first appearance on the stage until sev-eral years later, acting as Sophia in the "Rendezvous," in Augusta, Me. She studied with the once famous Pauline Decjardius, who visited America with Fannie Eissler, and soon almost rivaled her teacher as a danseuse. Afterwards she appeared in sev eral plays with Frank Chanfrau.

Next she went to the Pacific const, where she had a company of her own for a number of years, and then started for Australia. For a long time she was almost forgotten, but in 1875 Capt. Raiph Chandler found her in an asylum at Ballarat, a victim of "colonial fever" and totally blind. Kindbearted Capt. Chandler had her taken on board his ship, the Swatara, and when they reached America took her to her sister's home, at New Bedford, Mass., where she lived, an invalid, until ber death, a few weeks ago.

A REMARKABLE PERFORMANCE A friend, lately arrived from London, says writer in The New York Truth, tells me of a certain private exhibition of which he was a privileged spectator, the description of which is almost beyond belief. A small body of Moors, calling themselves Aissours, and claim-ing to be the leaders of a certain religious sect, gave an exhibition of some of their rite before a private party at St. James' hall. About a dozen turbaned Moors squatted in a semicircle on the floor, and, after a wild performance by one of the number on a tom tom, they gradually, and in turn, became roused to frenzy. One after another they would roll about the platform, writhing as it in the most terrible agony. At intervals one of the number, apparently a priest, would drag the writhing subject to a sort of cauldron, from which a thick vapor ascended and would force him to inhale a quantity of the steam,

Then would commence the self torture of these fanatics. One man, for instance, de voured a number of prickly enerus leaves and then, apparently unsatisfied with his meal, proceeded to demolish and chew up certain glass tumblers. Another deliberately cat a piece of burning wood, while his neigh bor was busily employed poking nails into his nose, spikes into his eyes, and, to all appearances, enjoying the sensation. Yet an other would not cease his ragings and contor tions until a live scorpion had been given him, which, after tor unting and teasing it until it was in a perfect fury, he calmly placed in his mouth and swallowed. The most awful exhibition was that of one Moor who when frenzled, was only quieted on a batel of snakes being handed to him; some o these he nursed in his bosom and fondled much as an ordinary snake charmer until suddenly dropping all but one he proceeded to whirl it about his head, and then to chew it up, spitting the bits of wriggling snake all over the floor.

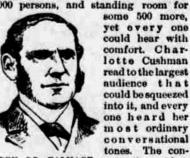
Almonds in North Georgia. Capt. J. P. Wilson showed us a day or two since some nice specimens of almonds which grew on the farm of Mr. Childs, a few miles from this place .-Clarksville (Ga.) Advertiser.

A SECOND DESTRUCTION. THE WORLD SYMPATHIZES WITH DR. T. DE WITT TALMAGE.

Both His Tabernacies Were Destroyed on Sunday-History of the Congregation That Has Grown Under His Mi tions-How the Doctor Takes His Loss.

Both of Dr. Talmage's Brooklyn taber-nncles were burned on Sunday morning —both, very fortunately, before the hour for service, for the destruction was rapid, and had the audience room been full of and had the audience room been full of people loss of life could scarcely have been prevented. A curious fact is that both tabernacles were substantially as planned by Mr. Talmage, that both plans were condemned by most judges to whom he submitted them, and that both proved to have been about the right thing when the buildings were com-pleted. He says that he began to muse on and look longingly forward to such a building when he was but a boy and dimly hoping to some day become a suc-cessful minister.

On Sunday, the 22d of December, 1872, the sexton, who was preparing the Tabernacle for morning service, discov-ered a fire near the flue in the southeast corner of the front vestibule. In one hour from the time the alarm was given the structure was a complete ruin, only small sections of the iron walls remain ing to show the original outline. It was built about two years before—a wooden frame, sheathed within and without with corrugated fron, and filled in with brick at the places thought fitting. There proved to be just wood enough to make destruction certain and rapid. The plan had excited much derision, yet building proved attractive enough in looks, while inside the acoustics were simply perfect. There were seats for 3,000 persons, and standing room for some 500 more.



tones. The con-REV. DR. TALMAGE. gregation grieved much over the loss of their noted organ, which was built for the first Boston jubilee in 1869, at a cost of \$25,000.

On the ruins soon rose a structure more completely in accord with Mr. Talmage's ideas. His plan, briefly ex-pressed, was to have a huge auditorium so arranged that every one in it can both see and hear the speaker with com-fort, and he accomplished it. Nor was the building a failure as a matter of taste, though in the interior one could see that extraordinary liberties had been taken with the platform, front of organ and other appliances to give relief to the outline wherever needed. To combine the horseshoe form with Gothic windows and ceiling seems in words an odd arrangement, yet it secured good hearing fo some 5,000 people and without special offense to the eye of taste. The general plan cannot well be described in strictly architectural terms. The main outline was that of a cross with broad and shallow arms, with roof, windows and decorative details in pure Gothic. But the head of the cross was devoted to a comparatively small lecture room and study.

The nave and transepts remaining for the auditorium were so arranged that one side appeared a long, straight wall, and the other as five of the faces of a regular octagon. To state it another way: Take an octagon and cut off three faces squarely; the square side thus left fronting the remaining five faces, the whole will seem very much like a semicircle or horseshoe. The middle of the straight side was taken up by the huge organ and pulpit platform, and from this the seats retired in five concentric semicircles to the five short walls (inner faces of the octagon), which were finished in light gray plaster. The ceiling was dark blue. By day the auditorium was lighted by huge Gothic windows of colored glass, and at night by three enormous gas chandeliers. There was no pulpit; only the chair and table of the preacher. Back of him rose the immense golden and silver hued pipes of the giant organ, and before him, below the front of the platform, sat the organist, with five key boards under his hands. To the preacher's right and a little below stood the cornetist, who gave the cue for the singing, a feature which often excited the amusement of

visitors. There was no choir; every one in the audience sang who wanted to or And this magnificent and popular

structure was destroyed on Sunday morning, Oct. 18, quite as unexpectedly and suddenly as its predecessor had been. At 2:45 a. m. a policeman observed that smoke was escaping from the roof, and that the windows were illuminated, and gave the alarm; but be-



THE TABERNACLE. fore the fire engines could arrive the whole interior was a roaring mass of flame, and by daylight there was nothing but glowing embers inclosed by what remained standing of the red hot walls. In the first fire the people saved most of the cushions, hyum books, etc., and they are still kept as heirlooms, mementoes of that fire; but in this nothing whatever was saved. When the first persons arrived the interior was already falling in. Mr. Talmage and several of the trustees arrived in time to witness the closing destruction.

The organization to which Dr. Talnage ministers is officially styled the 'Central Presbyterian church," and like most of the Presbyterian churches of Brooklyn, had its origin by an agreed separation from one of the original churches, as a regular system of separation and re-establishment grew up with the rapid growth of the city. This society first worshiped in a wooden buildng on Willoughby street, near Pearl, then moved to Schermerhorn street and used a small structure near where the Tabernacle afterwards stood. In 1869 Dr. Taimage was called to be their pastor, from the Second Reformed church in Philadelphia, to which he was then minister; and thereafter the fame of the Central church grew rapidly, till it became national, and, to some extent, international. But one never heard the name of the society; it was simply "Tal-mage's church" that people heard of, read of with interest, and visited if they got an opportunity. The new Tabernacle was dedicated Feb. 22, 1874, and was then celebrated far and wide as "the largest Protestant church in America."

The fame of Dr. Talmage as writer.

preacher and lecturer went on growing till he took rank among the eminent men of the age, whether in England or Amer-ica; yet both church and pastor seemed to grow, if possible, more orthodox and more exact in discipline and observances with each advance in fame. The meta-ods of the church were sometimes ridiculed, and Dr. Talmage was good humoredly satirized as the "gymnastic preach-er," but his rigid Presbyterianism was never questioned by synod or layman. His church was free to all, being maintained wholly by voluntary offerings, and he has organized a religious annex, if one may so call it, in the style of a lay college for religious training. It is open to persons of all denominations, and gives instruction in philosophy, logic and general literature, in natural theology, sacred history, the evidences of Christianity and interpretation of Scriptures. His many contributions to current literature, as well as his extensive editorial labor, are well known. He is, indeed, a

busy man.

The general feeling of Brooklyn, indeed of all New Yorkers, about Dr. Tal-mage is summed up thus tersely by one of them, "You may smile whenever he is alluded to, but you must not say a word against him." That's it, exactly. They nearly all smile, and a few laugh, at some of his methods; but all are intensely proud of him. Yes, all-agnostic and indifferents as well as orthodox. He is a thorough man and a thorough American, and the people will see to it that his beloved Tabernacle is raised again in greater glory than before. The loss, it may be proper to state here, will scarcely fall below \$200,000, including the magnificent organ; but there was an



RUINS OF THE TABERNACLE. insurance of \$130,000. The cause of the fire remains a mystery, but is believed to have been lightning acting on a building lighted by electricity. Perhaps the feel ing of the congregation and Dr. Talmage may be best judged from the following circular issued immediately after the

To the people:

By sudden calamity we are without a church.

The building associated with so much that is dear
to us is in ashes. In behalf of my stricken congregation I make an appeal for help, as our
church has never confined its work to this locality. Our church has never been sufficient
either in size or appointments for the people who

We want to build something worthy of our city and worthy of the cause of God. We want \$100,000, which, added to the insurance, will build what is needed. I make appeal to all our friends throughout Christendom, to all denominations, to all creeds, and them of no creed at all, to come to our rescue.

I ask all readers of my sermons, the world over,

I ask all reaces of my serimons, the word over, to contribute as far as their means will allow. What we do as a church depends upon the immediate response made to this call.
I was on the eve of departure for a brief visit to the Holy Land that I might be better prepared for my work here, but that visit must be

anot leave here until something is done to de cide our future.

May the God who has our destiny as individuals and churches in his hand appear for our deliver ance.

Responses to this appeal to the people may be sent to me at Brooklyn, N. Y., and I will, with my own hand, acknowledge the receipt thereof.

T. DE WITT TALMAGE.

The Youngest Judge. Here is a portrait of Hon. E. B. Belden, who is believed to be the youngest

ge in the United States. He in the village of Rochester, Wis., in May, 1866, and is therefore but 23. He is a son of Capt. Henry W. Belden, who served in the Thirty-seventh Wisconsin infan-画家 try during the war. He graduated from the Rochester seminary, and in 1883 went to Racine. where he entered the office of the county judge as a clerk. In the fall of 1884 be entered

the Wisconsin HON, E. B. BELDEN. State university, and graduated in 1886, at the age of 20 years. Although qualified to practice in any court in the state, he was until he became of legal age. In August, 1888, he opened an office in Racine.

In the spring of 1889 he was elected

county judge by a handsome majority, being only 22 years of age at the time. After the resignation of his grandfather, who was county judge, he was appointed to fill the vacancy.

RUSSIA'S BORDER LAND.

An Interesting Letter from the Pen of David Ker. [Special Correspondence.]

NEW YORK, Oct. 17.-There appeared lately in a Russian weekly, just after a terrible accident on the St. Petersburg-Moscow railroad, a picture representing an American tourist traveling along it with a Russian, to whom he boasts that "we have trains in the states that'll carry you seventy-five miles an hone." you zat anysing?" answers the Russian with calm disdain; "we haf trains on dis very railroad what sall carry you into ze next world in von moment!"

This Amelie Rives combination of the quick and the dead is the only sense in which the term "quick" can be applied to the trains that crawl over the vast dusty plain forming the border line between Russia, Persia and Asiatic Turkey. The "express" (which runs once a week!) takes twenty-four hours to cover the 400 miles between Tiflis-the capital of the Caucasus-and Baku on the Caspian sea, while all the other trains take thirty-six.

Nor does the surrounding landscape do much to atone for this delay. The railway to Tiflis from the Black sea port of Batoum, indeed-passing as it does right through the shaggy gorges and frowning precipices of the Southern Caucasus-has a savage picturesqueness which no words can convey; but as for the scenery between Tiflis and Baku on the Caspian sea, the best way to imagine it is to multiply a billiard board by five millions and subtract the cushions.

Moreover, the frequent halts for "refreshments" are merely a hollow mockery, the said refreshment consisting chiefly of "black bread," much blacker than it is painted, tea, so weak that it can hardly get out of the teapot without help, and so called "cabbage soup," that is really warm water, into which a stale cabbage leaf seems to have fallen by some accident. In fact, the only palatable item in the local bill of fare is the magnificent grapes, which are sold here at half a cent per pound.

But even this dreary flat is precious to Russia. Firstly, as the great storehouse of mineral oil, which, though its present sources are said to be showing signs of exhaustion, is believed to contain many more springs which are quite untouched and secondly, as the natural starting point of the fresh advance which she

undoubtedly meditating against the afready half devoluted dominions of the sultan and the shah. Across this boundless level Russia's largest army might march unimpeded, with all its stores and

Not many years have passed since it belonged to Persia instead of Russia, and to this day the Caspian ports of Buku and Lenkoran, as well as the outlying villages of both districts, are just as quaintly Persian as ever in architecture, speech and population. But the capture of Erivan and the treaty of Turkmentchai pushed forward Russia's elastic frontier at the expense of the shall, while by tier at the expense of the shah, while by the war of 1877-8 she sliced off another huge piece of territory (including Ba-toum and the great fortress of Kars) from

poor old moribund Turkey.

When the time comes for Russia to strike another blow at her two old hebors, she will be at no loss for a part to Unhappily, there are always cases enough of outrage perpetrated by Turkish masters upon Armenian vassals to give Russia an ever ready excuse for "protecting her fellow Christians" by arguments pointed with bayonets, and remonstrances uttered through the mouths of rifled cannon. Against Persia she has an even more plausible ground of complaint in the prevalent brigandage along the Russo-Persian bor-

Among our companions on the Baku train was a young Russian lady who told us quite coolly that less than a year ago, while staying at a country house in the southern Caucasus, she had been awakened at midnight by finding the bloody hand of a gigantic brigand twist-ed in her hair, while the sword that had just cut down the trusty servant, who lay writhing at her feet, was brandished with horrible threats before her very eyes. Only a few days before we ourselves passed, a train was stopped and robbed by banditti not far from Baku

That the shah of Persia himself would gladly hang all Persian brigands to-morrow if he could, makes no difference whatever, for when a strong state is determined to attack a weaker one causes of quarrel are never wanting, and a mention of "outrages upon Russian subjects by Persian robbers" would look very well in an official declaration of war. War once declared, Russia would be likely to make short work of it. Of the 167,000 Russian soldiers permanently stationed in the Caucasus, nearly two-thirds would be available for field service after all necessary deductions had been made for garrison duty-a force sufficient to sweep from the earth any army that the shah could put into the field against it.

Nor are Persia's natural defenses worth more than her artificial ones. The last "rectification" of the Russo-Persian frontier indeed gave to Russia only a few miles of barren hill country; but those few miles included two of the most important passes in the great mountain wall of Khorassan, through which a "flying column" of Cossacka could make a dash into Persia whenever they pleased. Then, too, the unfortified Per-sian port of Enzelli, open to any attack of the Caspian flotilla, is only 129 miles from Teheran itself, and the march offers no difficulties to men who have passed Caucasus and the Balkar. Moreover, Russia has now what she had not a few years ago, viz., a complete line of rail-way along Persia's whole northern frontier, by which men, stores and ammuni-tion may be hurried up to any point be-tween the Caspian and the border of

Afghanistan. Such being the case, one cannot wonder that the poor shah should have twice revoked the concession granted for Rus-sia's proposed railway to his capital from the Caspian scaboard, or that his rumored "friendly relations" with his big neighbor should remind one of Mo-

lieres clown, who, when assailed by a bear, attempted to conciliate the mon-ster by patting and complimenting it. The Halpine torpedo boat is the first one of the kind which propels itself by

The second

THE HALPINE TORPEDO BOAT. [From Harper's Weekly.]

means of a storage battery contained within itself. The force derived from the battery is sufficient to make the boat move from twelve to fourteen knots per hour. The torpedo boat is of copper, cigar like in shape, length 23 feet and in diameter 24 inches. It carries a shell 4 feet long, of 10 inches diameter, and capable of holding 100 pounds of explosive materials. The shell which the torpedo boat carries can be made to leave the apparatus at the will of the operator on the shore, or it is discharged from the boat automatically when an impediment is met with.

At the bow of the torpedo boat protrudes a short spar, which has a javelin head. When this head becomes entangled in the netting of a man-of-war it imparts a dip to the torpedo boat, and at the same time fires the charge which drives out the loaded shell. This shell either explodes by contact or by means of an electric battery within it. The boat is independent of the projectile, and is always under control by means of a wire from the shore. After having sent off its shell the boat returns to the point of departure. In the trial recently in the waters of New York bay the boat was directed by means of a single wire, so light that forty-five pounds of it can be extended to the length of a mile. By means of the controlling wire, if there be a netting around the object of attack, as soon as the shell is discharged the boat is made to back and return. This was demonstrated at the public trial. The boat can also be used to drop shells in a channel, to remain unexploded until connection is made between them and the shore. The Halpine torpedo boat shows admirably the rapid advance made in ejectricity in warters

A Pugilist's Great Luck. Pat Killen, the pugliist, has received a let-ter from his attorney in which he is notified that a contested will of one of his ancestors has just been settled in his favor. amount that Pat will receive is about \$17,000. His windfall is a portion of the estate of his mother, who died recently in Philadelphia possessed of property worth upward of \$100,000.



(Time, A. D. 2500; scene, Metropolitan mu sum, Chicago)
She—The catalogue says "Ancient Ball Player; but how could be play built be has

He-Well, you see, my dear, those were in the days before they purched by electricity. They played so hard then that they were probably pitched off .- Harper's Weekly.