ONLY A FORM NOW.

The Electoral College Does Not Do. What the Framers of the Constilution Intended.

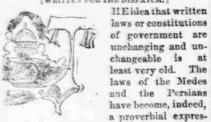
IT DID THAT ONLY TWO TIMES.

After That the Electors Considered Themselves Duty Bound to Be Merely Part of a Machine.

THE INNOVATION MADE BY MICHIGAN.

Henry Cabet Lodge Explains How Presidents Were to Be Elected and Are Elected.

[WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH.]



laws of the Medes have become, indeed a proverbial expression for immutability. This notion undoubtstone or traced upon parchment as possessing a quality of permanency unknown be-

This ancient theory as to the fixed character of written constitutions has had a fresh lease of life in modern times and among English-speaking people because the British Constitution as such has never been reduced to the form of a charter or code. Yet the theory, although old, is in reality only superficially true. Constitutional developmeat under a written constitution, wholly apart from the regularly provided method of amendment, is as possible and as farreaching as the growth of an entire system of law from the interpretation of a single act of Parliament like the statute of frauds or the statute of limitations,

Written and Unwritten Constitutions The written constitution is developed by interpretation and by facts just like the unscritten constitution. The only difference is that the former develops within certain specified forms while the other is wholly prestrained except by habits and customs. The result is much the same in either case. In the hands of the English speaking peowith their genius for government and their distrust of ready-made systems any constitution, whether it be a written charter or an uncodified body of laws and cusms, is sure to be developed and adapted in the process of time to fit the changing conas as well as the growth and the needs

that is well illustrated by the history the Constitution of the United States, has been the chief merit of that great trument that it has proved itself capable relopment while at the same time it on which it was based. Direct amendment of the Constitution by its own machinery is now almost impossible, and yet while it ever retains its vast and invaluable conservtive influence its wholesome development s always in progress.

Ours Would Surprise Its Framers. It has expanded here and restrained there, and thus far, as a whole, has worked admirably and fulfilled its purpose with a success. Nittle dreamed of at the outset. Indeed, if the framers of the Constitution could extheir work to-day, they would probaamazed at the manner in which it has he needs of a great people, by slowly erpretations of courts and grad ally conforming without distortion to the

In some directions the constitution has colored, in others it has remained uncharged; while in others still it has ceased be practically operative because although he form remained, the substance has been all to be unfit for existing conditions. It inuses much valued by the framers, at long since abandoned except in name, that i wish to speak here.

two great opposing forces in the conremains of 1787 were the National on the side and the Separatist or State-rights the other. The compromises between a two forces in the main formed the con-But there were also other strong on in the convention which all not you at all on the same lines as the lound and Separatist theories, but which of severtheless, a profound influence up-

Jealousy of Executive Power. One of these was the deep seated jealousy

elecutive power. The executive power all the colonies had represented England. ee executive and outside power had beie equivalent in the American mind and requently were subjects of suspicion ad distrust and appeared to demand carelimitation. Another strong sentiment convention springing from the natwas to be supreme, but it was to be ed in such a way as to secure delibtation and calm judgment and to avoid all to of rush or hasty decisions.

finally adopted for the choice of President and Vice President. The best method of making this choice was the subject of long less of everybody else. and anxious discussion. Practically every bally was against referring the choice of the angistrate to a direct vote of the peo-Only one State, in fact, voted for On the other hand every State voted that the President should be elected by Co. eress, which Governor Morris opposed with investing wisdom as opening the road to intrigue, corruption and cabal. This plan was smally adopted, however, and went to the committee of octail.

They Found the Happy Mode.

Still it was not quite satisfactory, and for it was substituted the plan of electoral colleges usually attributed to Hamilton which was adopted by the convention and ratified afterward by the States. This new plan of electors was certainly ingenious and it also solved the difficulties of the convention. It did away with the direct popular vote and avoided at the same time the evils of a choice by Congress.

The electors were to be chosen in each Siste in numbers equal to the Representaves and Senators of the State in Congress, On a given day all the electors chosen in all the States were to meet in college in each State and vate for President and Vice The person having the highest marber of votes in all the electoral colleges all the States was to im President and the orson having the next highest was to be

The theory was that the electors would be the ablest and best men in each State, that they would meet in their several colleges then, after due deliberation and dismation, removed as they were from the man of copular and party conflict, would

Beantiful in Theory but Impracticable. In the theory the scheme was a beautiful and perfect one. There was only one difficulty about it. It would not work. Poli-tical parties aimed at the Presidency and hyman anture is so constituted that men Customer—Oh, this is all right. It's for hid not cease to be partisans because they my youngest boy.

were chosen Presidental electors. At the first election Washington was made President by the general wish of the people. The electors simply registered the public will. They exercised their own preference in regard to Vice President and chose John Adams. At the next election the electors again registered the resules will by voting again registered the popular will by voting for Washington as President but in regard to Vice President the failure of the electoral system even at that early day was ap-parent. Party lines were drawn, imper-fectly but still distinctly. The Federalist electors voted for Adams and the anti-Federalists for Clinton. The power of choice had practically gone from the electors even

The equal vote for Jefferson and Burr in 1800, and the struggle threatening civil war which followed, led to an amendment doing which followed, led to an amendment doing away with the provision giving the Presidency to the person having the highest number of electoral votes, and the Vice Presidency to the person having the next highest. The twelfth amendment to the Constitution provides that the electors shall name in their ballots the person voted for as Vice President. This change made a repetition of the denger of 1801 impossible. tion of the danger of 1801 impossible.

The Plan Adopted by Michigan. This has been the only constitutional change, however, in the method of choosing a President established by the Constitution. In each State we vote every four years for electors to select a President and Vice President. These electors can be chosen in my changeable is at least very old. The least very old. The Legislature itself. All methods have been Legislature itself. All methods have been used, but the country has finally settled and the Persians down to the uniform practice of choosing have become, indeed, the electors at large for each State.

Lately Michigan has returned to the dis-trict system in order that a gerrymander to sian for immutability. This notion undoubt-edly came from the time when men were largely governed by unwritten customs, and thus came to look upon laws cut upon though for new objects, will be generally accepted, as the good sense of the country has decided in practice that the vote of each dectoral college ought to represent the majority vote of each State. The electors are named in each State by different parties and are voted for in block. The electors chosen meet in their respective States on a given day and vote. Their vote is duly recorded and sent not only by mail, but also, in accordance with the old form, special messenger to Congress, where the votes are opened, counted and declared by the two Houses.

The Old Forms With Meaning Gone, Thus the old forms survive unchanged, out all the meaning except in one point has departed. Party conventions now select our Presidents and Vice Presidents and the electors for whom we vote are merely machines to register the expressed will of the nominates and elects them. The electors have no power. As they are in honor bound to do, they simply register in constitutional forms the will of the popu-

lar majority which has selected them The system which showed so quickly that it would not work in the manner intended by those who devised it seems to-day cumbrous as well as meaningless. But it is well to remember that although it has failed of its original purpose, it has worked per-fectly well for a century and has proved en-

tirely harmless.

In one important point, moreover, the Electoral College has a real and vital mean-ing. The people ought to vote as they always have for President and Vice President, by States. This is an important and necessary application of the Federal princi-ple, and it is preserved by the electoral coleges. At the same time the direct vote of people for the Chief Magistrate is obtained as well as it could be in any arrangement, for the electors long since ceased to come between the people and the Presidency, and they really register the popular will as directly as if the votes were given for President and Vice President without any intervention.

HENRY CABOT LODGE.

TOO MANY UNSELFISH WOMEN. If It Were Not for Them There Would Be Fewer Selfish People. (WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCEL)

There is too much of the unselfish woman

in the home. She may be the patient, selfsacrificing mother, who gets over-tired that and was a sharp, distinct bark. others may go free; she may be an elder sister who has sacrificed all the graces and is a maiden aunt who smoothes the way with anxious eagerness for everybody's feet but her own, or a grandmother whose burdens multiply with the coming of the secof a provision of the last class, one of ond generation, because the young mother has not learned the secret of living her life independently. Whatever emergency of life may have called out her unselfishness. there it is, and, as I said before, there is altogether too much of it. Why? Because ere is such a thing as an unselfish that passes beyond its proper bounds and becomes mean-spirited. It lays aside that proper recognition of self which commands respect, and which is wholly necessary for individual well-being. That the mother should be the head, the brains of her family, what is more fitting? That she

> serve before them like a hired assistant, a thousand times No! to exemplify the Golden Rule, quite forge that self, after all, underlies its measure of values. If a great many women treated their neighbors no better than they treat themselves, this would be a sad world for

should be hands and feet, that she should

neighborliness. And this unselfishness is sure to work nonecked action anywhere. The new Gov-rament was to be a Republic and a democ-family where the wife or the mother, or the elder daughter, is auxiously unselfish, where she watches every opportunity to do where she watches every opportunity to do for the other members of the samily, what there is every good reason they should do for themselves, these others learn quickly enough first to accept it, then to assume it, and finally to demand it. And so the comes out of the home of the unselfish woman a flock of careless, self-seeking children, intent on themselves, criminally heed-HELEN WATTERSON.

HEALTH IN THE SUNBEAM.

Ray Will Kill the Germs of Const

tion and Most Other Diseases. IWRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH,] Half the zymotic disease in the world is the result of damp, dark, and their progeny -mold, decay and dirt. Any physician will testify to that. The following quotation from a paper read recently before the American Public Health Association by its President, Frederick Montizambert, M. D., F. R. C. S., D. C. L., of Quebec, ought to read by every housekeeper in this country:

"Everyone can do a little, if only to make one home or one room bright, more cleanly and more wholesome. Sunlight, pure air and thorough cleanliness are natural enemies to disease germs. The experiments of Koch, Ransome and others prove that the living germs of consumption, when exposed to the sunlight, lose their vitality a few hours, or even in a few minutes, if the layer in which they are exposed be thin enough, and that even ordinary daylight, if last long enough, will have a similar feet. There is no sounder philosophy than the old saving that 'there is more health in a sunbeam than in drugs, more life in pure air than in a physician's skill."

Circumstantial Evidence. Clothier and Furnisher.]

He-You didn't know I was color blind, did you? She-I suspected it from the neckties you wear.

Knew What He Was About

Clothier and Furnisher, 1

A TALK WITH A FISH.

The Little Fellow Pleaded Hard to Se Put Back in the Water-Sounds Made by Other Species-Some Can Make Music-[WEITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH.]



ISTEN! We were fishing on the edge of the great coral reef that reaches out toward Yucatan from Florida, and as my companion spoke he held his hands, in the act of unhooking it, a brilliantly colored fish

about eight inches in length. The fish gleamed with iridescence, red, blue, purple, and golden tints flashing from every portion as the bright sunlight played upon it. The fisherman held his prize carefully, and as he said: "Listen!" I heard a vey audible "cr-o-i-k-k!" then "kluk-kluk-er-o-i-k-k!"

"Ah," said my companion, holding the fish up as if it was a child, "you want to go back, do you?" "Cr-o-k-k!" uttered the fish, that I noticed

was rolling its eyes in a most doleful man-

"This hook must hurt," continued the fisherman, as he endeavored to detach it from the thin skin of the mouth. Too Much for the Fisherman

"Cr-o-i-k-k! cr-o-i-k-k!" again uttered the ish, rolling its eyes wildly and bending its "It's bad luck to throw a fish back," soli-

oquized the captor.
"Cr-o-i-k-k!" began the fish.
"But, bless my heart, I can't resist this." added the fisherman, and with a toss he threw the fish back into its native element. "And yet," said my companion, rebaiting his hook, "they say fishes cannot talk. If that 'ittle fellow was not pleading for his

life I should like to have some one explain what he was doing."

I did not attempt to differ with him, as while I did not care to confess it in public I entertained very much the same idea, which was that all animals that utter sounds use them more or less to express their emotions, wants and desires. The little fish, the talker as we choose to call it, was one of the very common fishes of the guif and found way up the coast, known there as the grunt, while in the dry boooks of science it appears as the haemulon.

Very Like Garner's Monkeys.

In months, or years, spent on this great reef I became very well acquainted with the grunt family, and if I must confess it, I often gave my imagination play and be-lieved I understood what the talkers said. This was before the days of the phonograph; but if I had possessed one of the instru-ments, and could have held some of my talking fishes up to it I am confident that I could have surprised some of the young folk who read this article. It may have been my imagination, but I fancied that the sounds, instead of being all alike, varied in different fish, and that I could distinguish a number of fish words. Be this as it may, although the grunts were always caught when I was fishing for other and larger game, I took them off the hook as carefully as I could and returned them to the water so that in this instance their voice, if such it can be called, served them well.

A large number of fishes utter sounds. I well remember being startled upon one oc-casion, by a small shark, or dogfish, which I had hauled into my boat while fishing for cod off the England coast. The fish had made its way under my seat and suddenly uttered a bark or gutteral sound so similar to that of a dog that I was startled and made so vigorous a movement that my compan ion-a professional fisherman-smiled and remarked, if they did not bark what was the use of calling them dogfish! The sound was repeated every time I touched the fish

The Eel Said to Be a Musician. gifts of individual life to a family of ber of fishes utter a similar sound, notably younger brothers and sisters. Perhaps she is a maiden aunt who smoothes the way with anxious eaverness for everybody's test fish was in great distress. The gizzard shad utters an audible whirring sound, and the cel is said by good authorities to be the musician of the family. I once endeavored to investigate this with a singular result.



A Talk With a Fish The idea occurred to me when visiting the little town of Ogunquit, on the Maine coast, There was a little lake or pond here that

was an eel paradise. My young readers must not think that I went sailing on the lake expecting to hear the notes of the eels rising in chorus from the water. Not at all. I merely thought that when there were so many surely a few would be found that would utter sounds. The lake was a tidal one; that is, at low tide it ran out into the ocean, being ther fed by a little stream of fresh water, and at flood-tide the ocean swept in, filling it up The lake was about three feet deep, with a bottom of soft mud that was fairly alive with ecls. My first visit to the locality was at sundown. The tide was low, and a rapid stream running from the lake. To cross the stream I removed my shoes and stockings and stepped in; the next moment I was floundering and slipping about on the rocks, while seemingly hundreds of eels, large and small, dashed against and around my feet, and left the water to go wriggling away at a rapid rate of speed, presenting a

marvelous spectacle. Too Much Like Wriggling Serpents. Thousands of the snake-like creatures filled the little stream; were, in fact, going down to the ocean in a solid mass, into which I had stepped—an experience so disagreeable that I gave up the investigation, being willing to accept the word of other observers that these fishes produce a dis-tinctly musical sound, and that the note, a frequently repeated single one, has a slightly metallic resonance. In the days of old Rome eels were believed to talk, and the Emperor Augustus pretended to under-

stand their language.

The sounds made by eels, and also catfishes, are produced by forcing air from the swimming bladder into the esophagus. It may be assumed that because the sounds are uttered from the air bladder that they may be meaningless; but my readers should re-member that the air bladders of fishes is homologous to the lungs of the higher backoned animals, and the pneumatic duct when referred to as a sound producer is to be compared, as regards its function, with

the traches of birds and milk-givers. The Noises Made by Drum Fish. The loudest sound-maker is the drum fish.

about which some remarkable stori 3 are told. Prof. Baird, in one of his reports, re-fers to the noises made by these fishes when the men were hauling them in, and not a few sailors have been alarmed by the unusual sounds. Some years ago a vessel an-chored off the New Jersey shore, and at night the men were astonished at hearing peculiar sounds, apparently coming from all about them. Some of the sailors who were very superstitious thought there was something wrong about the vessel, but the captain proved that the singular noises were occasioned by drum fishes. Sir John Richardson states that when off the coast of

Carolina he was prevented sleeping by the noise made by these fishes. According to some observer, the fishes produce the sounds by striking the tails against the bottom of the vessel, while others think it is caused by clapping their teeth together.

Many of the sounds, produced by fishes in various ways, are undoubtedly involuntary. As suggested, some are caused by the pneumatic duct and swimming bladder, while others are produced by the lips or the pharyngeal or intermaxillary bones. The swimming bladder of fishes of the genus Tricks and Zeus has a diaphraym and genus Trigla and Zeus has a diaphragm and muscles for opening and closing it, and probably produces the low murmuring sound heard in these fishes.

The Sea-Horse Can Talk. The attractive and curious little sea-horse. or hippocampus, produces low sounds which are supposed to be due to the vibration of certain small voluntary muscles. The cat-fish also makes a gentle humming sound, while the chub-sucker utters a single sound,

followed by a discharge of air bubbles.

Aristotle mentions a fish by the name of Choirois, or pig, as inhabiting a river in the Mediterranean, and as being one of the fishes that have the power of producing sound. During a visit to the north coast of Ceylon, Sir Emerson Tennent heard wonderful accounts of musical sounds that were said to proceed from the bottom of a lake, and while upon the lake one calm night he distinctly heard the sounds, which, he says, came up from the water like the gentle thrills of musical chord, or the faint vibrations of wine glass when its rim is rubbed by a wet finger. It was not one sustained note, but a number of tiny sounds, each clear and dis-

The sound of a bell, occasionally heard from the depths of the Mediterranean Ses, is thought by some to be due to the corvo, or crawfish, of the Italians, though others attribute the curious sounds to shelly mol-

Music in the China Seas.

Lieutenant John White, an English officer, states that during a voyage to China, when his vessel was anchored at the mouth of the River Camboya, the sailors were greatly astonished to hear curious sounds issuing from the water which were described as resembling the bass of an organ, the clanging of bells, and the twanging of a gigantic harp. The sounds, which continued for a number of hours and swelled into a chorus on both sides of the ship, were attributed by the interpreter to a school of fish in the vicinity.

Baron Von Humboldt has recorded a

similar occurrence in the South Sea. Early in the evening the sailors were greatly dis-turbed and terrified by a noise like the beating of tambourines, followed by sounds resembling the escape of air from boiling liquid, which apparently came from the ship. These extraordinary sounds, caused by a school of fish, lasted for ten hours. It is difficult to determine whether fishes have a vocal communication; but nearly 100 species have been heard to utter audible sounds when out of the water, this undoubtedly being a small proportion of the finny sound producers. C. F. HOLDER.

NOT A DONATION PARTY.

A Bazaar That Took Some Cognizance of the Needs of Bachelors.

(WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH, "If I am to run this bazsar," said Augusta, her black eyes shining with an executive glow, "I'm going to run it to make money. And I'm going to reach for the money just where it is to be found in the largest quantities-in the pockets of the men.

"Well, but the men always buy half the hings at a church fair anyway," suggested Florence, timidly."

"Of course they do, poor things," Augusta assented, "and to their everlasting confusion and shamefacedness, too. If I live to be 100 years old I shall never see a more pathetic sight than Willie Wallace, that dear old moth-eaten beau, tripping gaily about last year with a pink satin party bas under his arm and a shepherdess' crook in his hand, with a yellow butterfly bow upor t. What I'm going to do is to give these men whom we mean to levy upon, a fair equivalent for their money in things they can use themselves. I'm going to organize new kind of fair for men, and I'm going to call it-" "Call it a 'Bachelor's Bazaar!" cried out

little Bertie Wilcox, excitedly. "That's capital, and we'll have a be-wildering array of things that bachelors like, and we'll make more money and give nore satisfaction than ever bazaar gave be-

ore in life." And they did. There were pocket handkerchiefs with initials and without, in little boxes of half a dozen each, and there were neckties of all kinds, which any bachelor neckties of all kinds, which any bachelor could buy with confidence, knowing that his women friends would approve them. Be-sides these, there were silk handkerchiefs and silk protectors, and gloves and key chains, and the kind of writing paper that men like. There were boxes for collars and cuff, already filled, and silk umbrellas, and scores of other things that any sensible nan would be willing to give up good, hard dollars for, because he could see a use in them. But it is by no means to be supposed that women and their needs and fancies were wholly neglected in this bazaar. HELEN WATTERSON.

ASSISTING AT A RECEPTION.

The Duties Are Not Those of Greeting and and Dismissing the Guests. (WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH.)

If one of your women friends asks von to receive" with her at any function she has definite reason for so doing. She doesn't expect you to stand with her all the afternoon and do nothing but greet and dismiss guests-that is her special privilege as hostess. The unwritten law for those who are asked to receive with the hostess is otherwise. It is their part to do what the hostess, who is busy with incoming guests can-

These assistants may at the first, stand in line with the hostess until the rooms begin to be filled; then they should gradually withdraw, leaving only one of the number to act as special assistant to the hostess, and it should be their special mission to break up the stiff little pauses following introducions, to see that isolated and timid people are brought among those who have the most savoir faire, to invite guests out to the din-ing room, and see that they are properly served, to make the stranger feel sp welcome, to break up little groups of intimates, in short to diffuse a sweet and gra cious courtesy everywhere, to make every guest feel that he or she is an object of special consideration, to do what no hostess, no matter how fine her tact, can accomplish occause she cannot make a dozen people of herself all at once.

A City of Wide Latitude.

lothier and Furnisher.] Chicago Man-I want to change my order for a linen duster, and order a fur-lined.

Tailor—Yes, sir. Nothing wrong, sir? Chicago Man—Oh, no. I have just moved nto a more northern part of the city.

SKATES AND SNOWSHOES.

The Boys of Three Centuries Ago Glided About on Shin-Bones of Animals-The

Dutch First Used Metal-Devices for Walking on Snow. [WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH.]



As they sweep On sounding skates a thousand different

wavs. n circling poises, swift as the wind along, sings Thomson.

The boy who has never learned to skate has lost a pleasure that is dear to boy's heart, but there are few who have not tried skating, however limited the streams, pond, or icy place for practice may have been. Skates are very old; hundreds, nay, perhaps thousands of years before this damp winter, skating was a merry sport. Per-



haps too many in this age of invention think that more ideas are new than really are so. If we remember that everything we see around us grew up, then we can begin the inquiry about skates that came before the keen-edged "club," with all the ardor of historians. It is certain that skates would be of no use in the tropics; we must look for their home in the land of long winters, of crusty snow and slow, ice bound rivers.

Skating on Shin-Bones.

We would not envy the boy of long ago, as he bound the shin-bones of some animal to his feet and went through a kind of sprawling gymnastics that was the skating of the period. In Iceland skates are called isleggir, "ice bones," the shin-bones of a

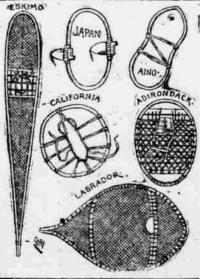
If sheep shin-bones were the first skates, If sheep shin-bones were the first skates, then the boy who lived before iron or bronze were known, back in the stone and bone age, could enjoy himself with this cheery sport. The boys of London in the twelfth century, Fitz Stephen tells us, in winter bind under their feet a pair of shin-bones, take in their hands poles shod with iron, which at times they strike against the ice, and are thus carried along with the ice, and are thus carried along with the rapidity of a bird on the wing or a bolt dis-



charged from a crossbow. The generous Holland boy, Hans Brinker, was forced to go back to the primitive way, when he had given his skates to a poor friend and had foregone his chances in the race for the "silver skates." It is thought that skates came into use in Northern Europe, perhaps in Holland, where it is cold and there is plenty of smooth water, because, where the rivers are swift there is no skating. The wooder skates with iron runners curling up into a wonderful spiral, terminated with a brasacorn at the point, were introduced into England from the Low Countries.

Over Two Centuries Ago. Gossipy Pepys, in his diary of December, 1661, records: "To my Lord Sandwich's, to Mr. Moore and then over to the Parke, where I first in my life, it being a great frost, did see people sliding with their skates, which is a very pretty art." The Scotch have the reputation of being good scaters, both in the "fen" or straight, swift skating, and the "fancy" skating. Our country as the champion, I think, at pres-

The snowshoe may be called the overland skate. While the snow lay in great drifts, defying progress, keeping the civilized New Englander in the house and setting Whit-tier to writing the beauties of "Snow Bound," the Indian, fixing framework covered with netting to his feet, could sally forth to kill the floundering moose or deer. Snowshoes must have originated, like skates, from sheer necessity. The savage cannot lay up a supply of food for a long time, he must be able to hunt all seasons. The same principle that men are trying to apply now in the invention of the flying



nachine, namely, to get a wide surface for the support of the air, has been successfully applied to the snowshoe. Development of the Snow Sh

Whoever this forgotten wise inventor was he must have noticed that sometimes the snow would almost bear him up on the area of his shoe si les and he reflected that if he had larger feet it would be a positive advantage. He plaits up some twigs into a circular shape and finds that the surmise is correct, but the snow collects on these primitive shoes and retards his walking.

The result of all the trials is the graceful, tapering Canadian snow shoe, with beveled frame of light wood and netting of rawhide, eaving no place for snow to stick.

The mishaps of the learner on snow shoes

are very ludicrous, especially when he "scuffs" and takes a header into the drift with snow shoes uppermost. The National Museum has many different forms of snow shoes, from the oval, very wide shoes of Labrador to the tapering shoes of shoes of Labrador to the tapering shoes of the Indians and Eskimo. The rudest snow shoes perhaps in the world are used by the California Indians. They are mere hoops of wood with coarse netting. The Aino shoe comes in a close second in point of rudeness. Just how the Labrador people walk with a snow shoe 25 inches wide on each foot is a query. The effort to bring one foot around past the other must result in a peculiar amble. The Japanese have a sort of snow shoe with spurs, that admit of sort of snow shoe with spurs, that admit of walking up the morntains in hard snow. The skees of Norway are long and narrow like sledge runners, and on them travelers glide down hills with great speed.
WALTER HOUGH.

WRINKLES ARE HONORABLE.

Helen Watterson Insists They Are Not as Bad as Gray Hairs, Even.

IWRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH. 1 Reading all the paragraph wisdom that is uttered nowadays on the subject of wrinkles, their avoidance and their care, a stranger on this planet would certainly think a new and mortal terror had just come among us. Enough is said of the treatment of wrinkles to make us all wise to avoid them, if wisdom were enough. But wrinkles, like love, will find out a way, and in spite of massage and oils and balms, wrinkles will set their delicate seal of thought and perplexity upon the forehead and under the eyes and about

The reason of wrinkles, any one will tell you easily, is years. But why is it that years make wrinkles? Here is the explanation, as well as a layman can give it. Un-derneath the skin in the flesh are embedded nultitudes of little muscles that hold the esh and keep it as we say "solid and firm." The skin also has a certain muscular power of contracting and stretching, as necessity demands, and which depends upon what is called the tonicity of the skin. As years creep along the muscles weaken and grow lax, no longer holding the flesh up firm and hard as before. All the lines in the face droop therefore with age, and the flesh has a tendency to fall down in little ridges. Just the same thing becomes to the king ust the same thing happens to the skin. It loses its contracting power and relaxes. Then come the little wrinkles.

It will be seen, then, that wrinkles are due to changes in the constitution of the skin itself. Anything that acts as a stimuant upon the skin keeping it active and so keeping up the tone of the muscles will tend to prevent wrinkles. But even if they do come, why should one be unhappy? They are as honorable as gray hairs. They indicate thought as well as years; they give character and dignity to the expression. Freekles and sun-burn have had their day of being fashionable. Why not wrinkles? They are beautiful if we only think so.

HELEN WATTERSON.

PROPER PLACE FOR THE LINEN.

Certainly Not on the Bed or Next the Skin, Save in Summer,

IWRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH.1 The world, or this part of it, at least is full of housekeepers who think that there is no material for sheets and pillow cases comparable to linen. They don't always have it to be sure, because it is expensive, but they always covet it and finger the shining breadths lovingly and wonder if the time will ever come when all these things shall be added unto them. But the truth about linen is that it isn't the ideal dressing for beds at all. It is cold and slipperv and insures sensitive persons the dream of aleeping on an iceberg which does well enough for an occasional experience, like seasickness, but which palls on too frequent Besides that, it wrinkles and tumbles in spite of its heavier body, much more than cotton does giving a bed after one night's use, a most slovenly and uninviting

Appearance.

Nobody recommends linen for body wear.

Its firm texture and hard surface makes it of the brotherhood. As he approached the halled him from the open. Its firm texture and hard surface makes it wholly non-absorbent; it allows the body to old barn Tommy hailed him from the open become chilled by refusing the perspiration and so has been known to bring on serious llness. For outside wear in summer, linen may be tolerated as clothing, but nowhere

Where, however, it is at its most useful and best is in household uses. For table service, for the toilet and for minor ornamental details, it is simply invaluable-its smoothness of texture, its brilliancy, which laundrying even increases, its exquisite freshness makes it the one fabric fit to drape the dining table, and to use in the toilet, while its suitability for needle work decor ation makes it admirable for all kinds of fancy work. And here it is used, but to wear next the skin and sleep

HER BROTHER'S TROUSERS CLOTH.

How a Bright Fin de Siecle Girl Started New Fashion Going.

WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH. "I don't see why I shouldn't have that piece of cloth for my new tailor-made gown," said a young girl not long ago, when her brother's new trousers came home from the tailor's. "But it's for men's trousers," said her

prother. "That's no reason why a girl shouldn't nave a gown of it, if she wants one," she answered.

It was a soft gray, with tiny stripes of a darker gray, and a hair line of black running through it. "It would make a pretty gown," said her mother doubtfully, not used to such innovations as this, even with her fin de siecle daughters, "but it is too

heavy."
"It isn't any heavier than your Bedford cord," persisted the daughter.
And so the patient mother- trotted away to get a bit of the Bedford cord. Sure enough, it wasn't.

"I shouldn't think of having it lined, said the young woman positively, "except in the bodice, and that with thin silk." "I cost \$3 50 a yard," warned her brother. "So does the Bedford cord," she an-

swered. And the result was plain from that mo Whether she set the fashion or whether by some, strange mental telegraphy the idea came to other girls, you must settle for yourself, but the fact is that a great many young women have stolen mas-culine clothes to have their street-gowns

WHAT FASHIONABLE WOMEN WEAR. Duyss skirts longer than ever.

MUCH fine white point de chene on black Seal skin heavily trimmed with Persian White kid gloves with black stitching to

MINK for and mink tails on bats.

Fun girdles in costumes that are trimme-HEAVILY braided jackets in half and three quarter lengths.

LIZARD-green velvet hats, with black Prince of Wales feathers. REAL lace veils with flowers and vines climbing over the face. Loxe ends of velvet ribbons floating from he back of their hats and no ties. Fun cravats, with the head and tall and cometimes the fect of the unimal preserved.

plain, ruffled or embroidered, folded corner-wise and knotted in front. Sasses on evening frocks, with long ends,

MARIE ANTOINETTE fichus of chiffon bemmed



WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH

BY MAJORIE RICHARDSON.

"And I say," cried Dick excitedly, "no about 'the Tyrint Father!" Bet I catch it one ever thinks anything about us. They when I get home." are always bothering about somebody's rights, but they don't care a rap whether boys have any or not. We are walked over by our parents just as Sam says-"

"That's so," grumbled Tommy Davis. "Here they've taken away our air-guns 'cause we don't know how to handle them, and I'd like to know how we can learn without them."

"Sam says the only way to escape from this thraldom is to bind ourselves together and be Knights of Labor. They are men who have processions with torches and badges, and they say, 'Give us our rights.' and then they get them and do just as they want to forever after."
"Hurray!" shouted Jack Elliott. "Let's

'Who'll tell us how?" queried Joe Har-

"I might get Sam," suggested Dick. "Father's given him a week's warning with-out a character, and he's in the garden working it out now. Father says he drinks, but Sam says he doesn't, and that fathe ought to take his word for it. He's mad enough, and says father's no gentleman. Oh, he'd belp us, I'm sure."

So ten minutes later Sam was seated in the clubroom, listening with a suppressed smile on his crafty face, to the agitated words of his colleagues. "The first thing ye wants is dinnimite,"

he said, emphatically, "an' next, trans-parencies—them'll show 'em the state of ver feelin's. It takes the money, though. How much have yez?"

Dick brought the bank, and its contents was counted out into Sam's large hands,

\$40 in all.

"You see, this morning," explained Jack, "when they took away our guns, our fathers gave us \$2 apiece-''
"That's alluz the way," interrupted the mentor. "What's a paltry \$2 to a capi-talist? Snap your fingers at 'em an' tell 'em ye won't take it. Hold on, though, ye'll want it for the expenses. Who's

"Joe has been" began Dick, "but there wasn't anything in the bank till this morn-

ing."
"Thin it's him must get the implimints o' defiance an' all the supplies of the brotherhood." "Oh," groaned Joe, "I can't. Won't you be treasurer, Sam?"
"Yes," said Sam, graciously, "I will—to obleege ye. But first, ye must all take a oath of illigence, which means ye must niver mintion the order or its doin's to out-

side parties." So the members of the newly organized hauge took a solemn oath never to divulge word that was said at the meeting: "Hope we may die if we do," cried the 20 knights in one voice after the last boy was sworn, and then the meeting adjourned.

Dick was unusually serious the next week, but then he was always serious at home, so no one took any notice of it. His mother and father were gay young people who could never spare time from their social duties to inquire into the moods of the solitary child. So Dick, unnoticed, prooded over his lonely life after his mother and father had driven caily away without so much as a "goodby" to him, his childish heart filled with bitterness, and he hurried

"H-i-i. Dick: I was just going for you Sam's come with the implements of de

Dick quickened his pace and in a moment he had joined the group of excited boys who were gathering about Sam in the empty hayloft. Sam was uncovering the first trans-

parency. "'We will defy the tyrint father," read Tommy, in an awe-struck tone. "Wheu!" ejaculated Joe, rather strong "It ought to be strong," said Dick, sternly.

"What's the next one, Sam?"
"Down with opprishin," was painted in crooked, black letters on the second trans-"I constricted thim misilf," explained Sam, "to save expinse, an' this," holdin up the third. "That's the best of the lot,

said Dick, admiringly." 'Shall our parints rule us no.' "That shows just what we "This other," continued Sam. "I borrid from a frind: 'Higher wvges-shorter

hours. "I don't see why we should have that," objected Joe. "None of us get wages, and what does 'shorter hours' mean? "Oh precissions aluz carries that motto, Sam assured them with a superior smile. "It looks fine when it's lit."

The torches and badges were produced and then Sam said impressively: "Sit still now, an' don't move so much as yer finger whilst I gets the dinimite. It's



below in a box, an' if it's shook it'll eg splode. It must not on inny account l ppined till yes wants ter use it. Now where'll yer put it? "There's the high dogcart in the car-riage-house," suggested Dick. "Father

never uses it; why wouldn't that be a good "Sure an' it would. Take it there now, an' put it under the seat, an' mind ye don't sthumble. An' afore we breaks up, let's give three cheers for the knights that's goin' to trow off the yokes from their nicks to-morrer night."

"Well, how do you think it went off?"
The members of the brotherhood stopped the lane near the common and looked gloomily at each other. Jack shufiled his feet, and twisted his

torch from side to side. "It wasn't as good as I thought it would be," he muttered. "It made me feel mean when we came to mother. Wish I hadn't carried 'Shail our parents rule us no?"

when I get home."

"I wouldn't mind eatching it," said Joe, wrathfully, "but I do hate to be made fun of. My father laughed at every one of you, but when I went by and he read 'Higher wages—shorter hours' he just sat down on the steps and hollered. I told Sam that was a silly motto. I know I shall never hear the end of it."

"No matter," said Dick, resolutely. "We've taken a stand and we must stay by it. I don't know what my father thought. didn't look at him much. He and mother

rode slowly by us in the dog cart, just as we -Je-russlem!"

He leaned against the fence and glanced wildly from one boy to another.

"The dynamite," he gasped. "Where is the dynamite? It's in the very cart that father is driving, and Sam said a breath would explode it."

His lips turned very white. "They hanged

Guy Fawkes because he tried to blow up England, but I'm wickeder than he, for I'm blowing up my own father and mother. What is there worse than hanging, Jack?" A desperate expression came into his face as he asked this question, and his voice was

strange and stern.
"Oh, Dick," whimpered Tommy, "don't talk like that; you didn't mean to do it. None of us did," and he put his arm affec-

tionately about Dick's shoulders. "We will stand by you to a man, Dick," said Joe, heavily. "We'll all hang." bringing the word out with a shudder, "with

But Dick shook off Tommy's protecting arm and started on a run down the road, closely followed by his horror-stricken companions. The torches and transparencies bobbed up and down and cast a flicker-ing light on the white, drawn faces beneath, Dick's feet flew over the ground with a swift tread, keeping time to the words that were running through his brain:

Oh, do you remember the 5th of November, The gunpowder treason and plot. Around the corner of the street by the costoffice stood a dog cart with a woman



Dick Caught Up the Reins. started to run, but Dick caught up the reins that were trailing on the ground, and clung to them desperately. The animal, plunging and curving wildly, dragged the sturdy little figure some distance down the road, until a man caught him by the bridle and forced

him to stop. Then Dick staggered to his feet, and called faintly: "Hurry, father-hurry, Take mother out. She'll be blown to pieces. There's

dynamite under the seat."

One of the men in the group about the cart instantly drew from the back a small, suspicious-looking keg, at the sight of which the crowd fell back. The lid was carefully pried open, and a shout of laughter went up for it was filled to the brim

The next day all the knights but Dick were assembled in the clubrooms, a sorrow-ful looking group. Their treasurer had departed without squaring accounts and leaving an empty treasury behind him; and then there were other accounts, not financial ones, to be squared up later with their parents. Upon the gloomy scene Dick suddenly entered.

"Cheer up, you fellows," he cried blithely. "Just listen to this. We ain't in a scrape after all. Father and I had a long talk last night and he was mighty nice. He said he thought we'd had punishment enough, and that he'd make it right with all the fathers. And he's going to take us out in his yacht to-day, and mother's going to give us a party with-

"Thunder!" broke in Joe incredulously, what for?" Dick sobered a little. "Well, that's what puzzles me," he answered slowly. "Father said he wanted to get better acquainted with me, and mother cried and said it was all her faultfrom begin-

ning to end-I don't see why," he admitted thoughtfully. WHY THE PORTER WAS USED UP.

He Followed Instructions Implicitly 1 Got Into the Wrong Berth, Clothier and Furnisher.] "Now, see here porter," said he briskly

"I want you to put me off at Syracuse. You

know we get in there about 6 o'clock in the

morning, and I may oversleep myself. But

it is important that I should get out. Here's
a five dollar gold piece. Now, I may wake
up hard, for I've been dining to-night and
will probably feel rocky. Don't mind if I

Pay no attention if I'm ugly. I want

you to put me off at Syracuse."
"Yes, sah," answered the sturdy Nubian,
ramming the bright coin into his trousers
pocket. "It shall be did, sah!" The next morning the coin-giver was awakened by a stentorian voice: "Rochestere! Thirty minutes for refreshmenss!"
"Rochester?" he exclaimed, sitting up. Where is that damn coon?" Hastily slipping on his weusers, he went in search of the object of his wrath and found him in the porter's closet, huddled up with his head in bandage, his clothes

torn and his arm in a sling. "Well," says the drummer, "you are a sight. Been in an accident? Why didn't you put me off at Syrnense?"
"Wha-ai" ejaculated the porter jumping
to his feet, as his eyes bulged from his head. "Was you de gen'man what guf ter me s five-dollah gold piece?"

"Of coarse I was, you idiot!"
"Well den, befoah de Lawd, who was dat gemman I put off at Syracuse?"

A cut inflicted with a blade of grass or a sheet of writing paper is bad enough, but the most disagreeable wound that can be in-flieted on the human body is that made with a strip of bamboe. The outside of the bamboo contains so much silex that it will ent-like a knife; in fact, the Chinese and Japanese do make knives of it, which are cheap and for a time tolerably effective. A cut

made with bamboo is exceedingly hard to

heai and obstinate ulsters are apt to result.

A Fact the Salesmen Learn.

No matter how active retail business may be, the last two or three days of a month are almost invariably easy for the salesmen, while the first few days of the month are always the busiest. It is obvious that this is the result of the diplomacy of buvers who

"Wish I hadn't been in it at all," sniffed are aware of the custom of lesuing all bills Tommy. "If you had seen the governor's on the lst, and who are auxious to secure as face when he saw the old thing I carried much credit as possible.