A REVIEW OF SPORTS.

Magnates Who Want the Baseball Championship Season Shortened.

PENNANT RACE FEATURES

J. A. Hart's Uncalled-For Interference in the Burns Case.

SULLIVAN AND CORBETT BATTLE

Ixaggerated Reports About the Poings of the Men While in Training.

THE PROSPECTS OF LOCAL FOOTBALL

There hasn't been much out of the ordipary in baseball affairs during the week. The contest for the second pennant still continues to be exceedingly interesting and in some respects surprising, but there has been nothing bordering on the sensational to

Once more the question of shortening the championship season has been brought to the front. One report has started that several of the magnates have been conferring on the matter and have come to the conclusion that it would be profitable to shorten the season to 130 games and not to commence the championship contests until May. As far as steering clear of the wet and chilly weather is concerned the move would not be a bad one, but there is another and very important feature connected with it.

The financial element must be considered and it is safe to say that if the season is shortened to the extent above suggested there will have to be many financial changes made. It is reasonable to suppose that players will not get as much money for the nort season as for the long one. Besides the short season will tend to knock on the head the p-an of signing players for 12 months at so much per month. In a word it is fair to assume that clubs would realize less income in the proposed short season than they would in the long one. It is argued, I think, that if the season

were shortened the crowds in attendance at the games would be much larger. This is, ndeed, a very conjectural point and if that is the hope of those desiring the change it is likely to be an illusion. To shorten the senson and retain a 12-club league would be unwise move, and I am inclined to think that such a change will not be made.

Leading Features of the Pennant Race. About half of the teams in the pennant race continue to make the contest just as interesting as one could wish to see it. I am sure that cranks who like to see close struggles can have nothing to complain about in that respect as far as the pennant race is concerned. The Cleveland, Boston. Philadelphia, Brooklyn, New York and Baltimore teams are making matters ex-ceedingly close, and while it may be easy to say what team will not win the pennant is not so easy to say what one will be

I had a notion some time ago that the Brooklyn team would get the flag, but that cam's work lately has been so far short of their best that my fancy for them now is not by any means as great as it was. They are not far behind and if they could pull themselves together and play as they did during the closing games of the first season they would come out victors. I don't ex-pect that the Cleveland's will long remain at the head, and in this I may be dis-

een upset. The New York and the Baltimore teams are playing remarkably com-pared to the work they did during the first The New Yorks may be able to keep t up, but I question very much whether he Baltimore team will. It wouldn't be a bad wager to risk on Pittsburg's team beating the Baltimores out. But after all the Hoston team will take some beating and so will the Philadelphias. But these Bostons are not as formidable this half as they were first half, and while they may be ard to down they do not look like getting the second pennant.

The most interesting part of the struggle for the second pennant will commence tomorrow when each Eastern team starts a series of 18 games in the West. This long series and at this stage will go a long way toward determining who are to be the win ners, and, of course, the Western teams being at home have the advantage. The series will certainly test the pitching strength of the Eastern teams and I wouldn't urprised if some of them were to go sadly to pieces. These long spells are a great evil and are one of the bad teatures of the 12-club plan; and they also show up the gross absurdity of the rule limiting each team to 13 men. Fancy a team leaving me for more than 20 League games with 13 men. The thing is ridiculous. More About the Burns Case,

It is very interesting to note now and then how some people concern themselves about other people's affairs. In this respect there are men a hundred times worse than ever Mrs. Gamp or any other gossipy old woman was. I know of nobody in the baseball business who busies himself in other recple's affairs like James Artful Hart, of Chicago. Like all old gossipers of no ought and lots of words, he is always making his tongue go about the business o other people, while his own is going to the During the last few days this noisy n has been telling the public about hor badly Tom Burns has been treated by the Pittsburg club. Doubtless Mr. Hart has any amount of time to look after other peointerests as the Chicago is doi well, and by the way, has done so well since Mr. Hart became connected with it. James A. is apparently satisfied that Chicago only wants a tail end team, and I know of no body who is abler to get one than Mr. Hart.

He can do it with ease and have lots of time to talk about other people. case? Was Hart one of the party who toisted Burns on the Pittsburg club in full knowledge of Burns' shortespairs? Let me ask, what in the name of common would seem so. Hart is either a downright talsifier, a thorough knave or a consummate fool. He says that he would cer-tainly have paid Burns his full three years' he (Hart) had a contract with Burns similar to the Pittsburg contract. This means that if Hart signed a man who did not fulfill requirements contracted for and was an otter failure he would still re tain him. James A. Hart might do that, but if he did would A. G. Spalding retain James A. Hart? Not a bit of it. But Hart

rould do no such thing. The case of Burns is an important one because there is no desire on the part of the Putsbarg club to act unfairly with any-I am in a posicion to sav that if Tor Burns can demonstrate to the officials of the Pittsburg club that he can play tuird base as well as it was said he could do he can be on the club's payroll every day his contract This extement is authoritative. and surely there is everything that is fair in it and everything that is reasonable Pittsourg club nor any other club can afford to pay enormous salaries to men who are no good whatever, but on the contrary make things worse.

The vaporings of men like Hart ought to be empirationally condemned by the League.
(If late light has become notorious by his idotic claims and statements. If he is lookng for fame he had better devote a little more of his time in trying to improve the

tenm that he is paid to look after. The Appointing of League Umpires,

fault of Mr. Young. Nor could appointments be more successful under any other system that has been suggested. It must be borne in mind that Mr. Young has almost entirely to depend on the recommendations of others when he is selecting a new umpire. He cannot travel around the country inspecting the work of every young man who is aspiring to be a base ball umpire. But many men are recommended through

have umpires appointed? Surely they would never think of relegating that power to the League directors. If that were done then we might have the directors in sesion all season keeping tab on old umpires and selecting new ones. The most pracing umpires is the present way. New umpires must be tested and well tested. In the testing process teams may suffer but this drawback will have to be endured unless a plau can be pointed out by which new umires can be had thoroughly developed to the first class degree.

A Prevailing False Notion, As the discussion about the reduction of ball players' salaries continues it becomes clearer and clearer that those who defend the unfair and dishonest method recently indulged in have not s peg to stand on. One very precocious youth who favors the "cut" has become so utterly helpless in upholding the trickery that he has thrown his

holding the trickery that he has thrown his hands up in disgust, and declares in a kind of dying gasp that the matter is being talked about more than it is worth.

Without doubt the question is one of the most important that has been connected with the League for a very long time, and the bad precedent laid down may some day recoil with great force on the magnates

But there is a false notion prevailing re-garding this matter. Many people think that I and others are entirely opposed to any kind of reductions in the salaries of players. A day or two ago Manager Harry Wright stated that salaries were too high wright states that salaries were too high, and one writer claimed that he (Wright) was helping to keep them up by not entorcing the new plan of brigandage.

Now Mr Wright is acting quite consistently and honestly. While he is convinced that salaries are too high he is eager to have a ware under him who is doing to have every man under him who is doing satisfactory work paid every dollar that was contracted for. That is noble; that is fair dealing and honorable and a great con-trast to the sordid and sinister trickery and

deception as practiced on Mullane and others. The truth is that the new mode of reducing salaries has struck at the very root of the integrity of the League. Let the magnates make salaries to suit their means, but let them do it honestly and justly. When the proper time comes the system of uniform salaries or any other system can be adopted in an honorable way. out most certainly there is nothing l fraud in a plan by which a player can be signed for \$3,000 and after the season is fairly started cut down to \$1,500, and if he insists on his contract price he is pushed out of the business. Why it is an outrage and one of the most discreditable swindles ever perpetrated on men who work for

wages or salaries. A man should blush to defend such a notorious fraud. The Approaching Football Season. We'll not have to wait long before the football season is upon us again. Clubs all over the country are beginning to get their teams ready, and, of course, everybody expects to do better than has ever been done before. Generally speaking, it seems safe to say that if the warther than the same before. ood this will be the greatest football year we have had. There are more players and teams throughout the country now than there has ever been, both Rugby and Association. This means that we will have more playing than ever, and I dare say the playing will be of a better kind than in

Locally the prospects are exceedingly encouraging, indeed they were never so bright. The patrons of the Rugby game are already as busy as beavers getting their men ready, and from what I can learn we are likely to have some fine teams in Pitts-burg. Mr. Barbour, of the East End Gyms, confident of getting a team together that will give the best teams in the country all the playing they want. I hope his expectations will be realized.

The Three A's are also determined to have the best team here this fall that Pittsburg has ever had and I am inclined to think they will. Some of the best players in the country have applied for positions on the Three A's team and altogether there are nearly 40 good men to select from.

Of course we will have many other local teams of lesser note. But what I want to point out is the necessity of the clubs be gipning now and securing dates with some of the best teams in the country. No team need be atraid to come to Pittsburg as far as making money is concerned. With a reasonably good day there would be an immense crowd to see a good local team tackle a prominent visiting team. There will be a greater interest in the game this fall than there was last fall, and that means paving crowds when good teams are play

President Matthews, of the association club, tells me that his club intends to have the very best association teams in the coun try here. The local association team will be a professional organization and the play ers hope to do well. They will likely be a ood team, as players are to be carefully se lected. Altogether we will have plenty of football. There is plenty of fun in seeing either a Rugby or an association game and l know of no community of people who like tun better than Pittsburgers.

Great Speed of the Trotters, The interview with Mr. Robert Bonner published in this paper last Thursday, regarding Sunol and the trotting record would be exceedingly interesting to the thousands of people who patronize trotting races and admire trotting horses. Year after year for a long time we have satisfied new wonder and the possibilities of the

trotter are just as open a question now as they ever were.

Mr. Bonner is inclined to think that Sunol will lower her own mark of 2:0814, and it would be unsafe to say that he will be disappointed. As a rule the chances are always in favor of a record standing, but the speed of trotters has of recent years been developed so wonderfully that a world's record is now in danger all the time. It would be very interesting if the tam mare Sunol could be engaged to come to Homewood track in the tall and try her speed. She probably might not be able to ower her mark, but if she was in good form

she would certainly go a fast mile or two. The Two Featherweight Pugilists. Both Dixon and Skelly are now in the vicinity of New Orlean, getting ready for their coming battle next month. Both are reported to be in fine condition, and of course each man is confident.

Last week I hadn't space to say much about the two little fellows, but what I did say was in lavor of Dixon. I am still so inclined, although I give Skelly the credit of being a very elever little fellow. He has not yet taken part in a professional battle, so that when he meets Dixon he will make his debut as a professional. This is quite a big step up for him and I fear too big a Skelly, indeed, must be a veritable step. wonder if he can step out of the amateur ranks and deteat a man like George Dixon. My experience leads me to think that no such During the week just ended there has result will happen. Skelly has done wouder duced to mere shells.

been a deal of talk and discussion about the method of appointing League umpires. At present President Young has the power of making the appointments, and he has certainly been the target of considerable censure and condemnation during the last few days.

It seems to me that nothing could be more unreasonable than all this "kicking."
True, some of the appointments have not baen very successful, but that is not the fault of Mr. Young. Nor could appoint the sum of the professional in the world. The judgment is bad because the amateur may be a thoroughly good man and get defeated entirely because of lack of experience. Had Peter Maher been thoroughly tested in finish fights with second oughly tested in finish fights with second and third rate men before he met Fitzsimmons, it is likely that Maher would have beaten the Australian. But he was be-wildered and his defeat discouraged him so much that he became worse than ever he

True, Skelly may be s wonder, but the chances are against it. In the past when amateurs have faced first-class professionals they have invariably come off second best. But if Dixon wins there is likely to be sympathy to a very great extent. Some people will stretch a point or two in praising the abilities of the man they recommend to Mr. Young, and the latter has to be guided by those outside opinious. It is thus easy to see that in many cases the people who kick most about bad umpires are the very persons who help to get them there.

But if Dixon wins there is likely to be still plenty of work for him. There is a strong desire to back Griffin against the colored champion, and I really believe that Griffin is the most likely of all the little fellows to meet Dixon. A man who knows what he is talking about tells me that Griffin is an extremely good man and may prove himself better than Dixon.

At any rate I don't think there will be much talk about matching Pearce against

much talk about matching Pearce against Dixon now since Pearce was unable to defeat Siddons. The battle between the latter was a good one, and it exploded some big notions about the abilities of Pearce. He is a game little fellow and somewhat clever, but he lacks force. He could not knock Siddons out, although he had nothing to do but thump Siddons. The truth is Pearce was just about beaten when the contest was declared a draw.

Reports About Corbett and Sullivan. derful stories are being circulated by the press agents of these two pugilists and if we can place any reliance at all on these reports we can safely conclude that there never, in the history of pugilism, were two men in better condition than Corbett and Sulliven

in comparatively poor condition to run. Nobody who knows anything about toot-

Nobedy who knows anything about foot-running will for a moment believe the "55 minute" story about John L.

I mention this as a sample of the exag-gerated reports circulated about both Cor-bett and Sullivan. Doubtless they are both working hard and successfully, but there is room for much improvement in both.

During the week it has been noteworthy the large amount of money there has been forthcoming to back Corbett. Only a short time ago I never for a moment thought that Sullivan's followers would hesitate to bet 2 to I on their man, but even now they are not very willing to bet 5 to 4 on John. This is something that nobody expected. But it is very likely that before the battle takes place there will be greater odds on Sullivan than 5 to 4. As soon as his friends, and they are numerous, get warmed up they will raise the odds. PRINGLE.

By the Aid of Chalk and Matches a Flery Combat Can Take Place.

Harper's Young People. The amusing experiment of a lilliputian naval battle can be made with white chalk and the ordinary table vinegar. Model, say a dozen chunks of chalk to the resemblance before. Generally speaking, it seems safe of ships, planing the bottoms evenly, and to say that if the weather keeps reasonably using matches for masts, smoke-stacks and turrets. The rival forces you can distinguish by coloring the enemy's ships with black ink, leaving your own white. Having them in a pan or plate close to an imaginary dividing line, pour a good quantity of vinegar between the chalk sticks. Instantly you will hear an audible seething, like the hissing of shells in actual warfare, while turrets. The rival forces you can distinguish hissing of shells in actual warfare, while ships as if puffing up steam will begin to ships as if puffing up 'steam will begin to move forward in slow revolutions, leaving behind them streaks of foam such as are of served in the wake of moving vessels. When meeting at the dividing line, they will have attained quite a respectable speed, bumping and cuffing together in the endeavor to push one another furthest from the dividing line. The engagement often proves an exciting one. Of course, the side has won the center after the affray.

The chemical solution of this seeming mystery is quite simple. Chalk being largely carbon, combines with the acid of the vinegar in carbonic acid-the same gases that cause the effervescence of most mineral waters. The gases rise to the surface of the vinegar in small bubbles of sufficient strength to cause the current which

chalk contains the largest proportion of car-bon. It will also prove of advantage to plane the chalk carefully, so as to permit it

Sweltering Heat.

Philadelphia Times. 1 Anybody can, of course, keep cool if they are able to run away from the city and enjoy the racy ocean breeze or the fine scented zephyrs of the hills, but the stay-

Of course we can all talk, advice is cheap, which probably accounts for so much of its being given away gratuitously, yet the fol-lowing hints are really worth observing: To begin with, don't fret and stew because it is so warm. It won't reduce the temperature the hundredth part of a degree, yet it will have a tendency to make you hotter than ever before in your life. Therefore, it is to

in the morning let the air have full sway through the rooms of your house; after that close the shutters and doors until sundown, ing hours are given full sway. Then dur-ing the heated term place a big dish of try these simple methods and may add greatly to your comfort.

Iron Industry in Australia Telegrams from Sydney to England state that the Australian Government has decided to invite tenders for 175,000 tons of steel rails, to be manufactured in the colony from material obtained in the colony. The ob-ject in view is to induce British ironmasters to develop the iron mines of New South Wales and to build up local manufacturing

Doings of White Ants, The famous termites, commonly called "white ants," although they belong to the order of the dragon fly infest Ceylon in

An Aspiring Georgian Asks Bill Nye About Their Advisability.

ADVISED TO GET ONE AT ONCE. Office Seekers Can Eav Nice Things About

Themselves in Them. THE WAY TO SUDSIDIZE THE PRESS

CORRESPONDENCE OF THE DISPATCH 1 BUCK SHOALS, N. C., August 12.—The following letter from Georgia seems to require and call loudly for a public reply, let the chips fall where they may.

Mr. Smith is only one of a large class each member of which would be glad to have some of the questions contained in this letter settled at once and forever. After this week they will be regarded as settled:

MACON, GA., July 31. MY DEAR MR. NYE-You will excuse me if I encroach on your valuable time long enough to gain some information about a matter over which I am put to considerable thought. I am at present residing in a small villa near Macon, Ga., where I have been raised all my life. My neighbors have honored me on several occasions by electing me to positions on the school board and such. Some of them have gone so far as to mention my name in connection with higher honors. So far I have managed to be noncommittal on all subjects, rather waiting a unanimous call from the people. Recent developments almost convince me that I am pursuing the wrong course if I hope for success, and this is the subject of which I would speak.

The campaign is drawing near to hand and

come candidates have already announced As yet I see no immediate hope of success unless I do likewise. My nature is very sen-sitive and I don't think I could stand defeat

stive and I don't think I could stand defeat since fi_uring so prominently for so long a time in my district. I have exhausted my brains in trying to devise some means by which I can create excitement and catch the people by storm.

It is impossible to find a platform that is not already filled, and I don't like to play second fiddle to any man's lead. The questions I would ask are these:

Do you think it the wise policy to subsidize the press? I speak to you in all confidence, and know you will treat my questions as such. This I think I can do, but not without figuring against my general disinclination to do so.

The other day, as I was on the train to Ma con, the editor and proprietor of our only weekly paper was on the train too. He ap proached me first, and I want you to re-member that fact. He told me that his wife was very unleadity, and that he had about made up his mind to change his residence



friends and such a paying business without great concern.

I thought this was my chance. Now, I have quite a snur little sum—say, \$3,000—and can raise more on some property my wife owns. Do you really think I would be right in buying his paper? I have never been a particular admirer of the paper, but that is because they never gave me any notice. He will sell, and after talking the thing over I was given this inventory on a piece of pa-

will sell, and after talking the thing over I was given this inventory on a piece of paper. You can better tell whether the price he asks—\$3,789—is all right:

One Wasning on hand press, 1 mallet, 1 shooting stick, 1 box quoins, 100 pounds long primer, 3 fonts job type, 1 case head letter type, 2 stands, 6 type cases. 2 pair chases and column rules, 1 table, 1 bucket, 1 wash pan, 1 case potnsh. Besides, he said he was advertising a piano, and next vear he would get it. Two machines were che him on advertising and a clothes wringer and patented churn. He mentioned lots about the good will of the paper and said the legal notices were great.

I will not longer take up your valuable time, but hope soon to know your honest advice as to whether it will be to my interest to buy this paper or not. I am desirous of having an organ. Yours truly,

Smith Struck the Right Party.

Smith Struck the Right Party. There could be no wiser thing done, Mi mith, I opine, than to do just what you have done, viz., to come for information where information is made a specialty of. You will do well not to wait too long for a unanimous call from the people. You can see how it has worked in my case. I have been patient and pure in a political sense-pure as the baking powder whose name would have been put in here if check had been received in time-and yet, although or although yet, I should say perhaps, not withstanding the fact that I have repeat dly given the public to understand that my health was good enough to withstand the strain of a canvass, convention after con-vention has gone by and my name has not

s yet been presented. You are sensitive of course. Your whole nature recoils at the idea of announcing yourself, and yet if I had my life to live over again I would smother this shy feeling and fire my brain with koumiss. Then could come forward and ask for the popula suffrage. Possibly you might object to firing your brain. Some do, but when brain shows signs of incapacity and lack o

interest I claim it should be fired. Political Platforms on Finance. So far as platform is concerned, there is as you say, no new one. Finance has always offered a good opportunity for the ingenior ghtless and the ignorant, but this year it will not do. The day has gone by for great financier to borrow the money and elect himself to office. All the great national financiers have now exhausted their credit. I slated the last one several years ago, but he was deteated and is playing beanbag at the poor farm this sum a gent who has a theory about an interna ional language, together with a long stand

ing case of paresis.

Ever since the Mayor of Seattle said last year that "the entire country has been this year at what may be called the extrem inister point of commercial oscillation," just gave up and went to work by the week. I knew that I was that way myself, but I and no idea that the country was such.

Yes, it would be well to subsidize the press. It would help you and at the same time it would not offend the press. Subsidizing the press should be done in a genteel

way of course, not rudely or coarsely. How Not to Subsidize the Press, Do not go into the office while others are present and in a loud voice seek to swap a eigar with one warm, wet end to it for the never dying love of a paper that has come to stay. You only give offense and hurt your cause. Vulgarity is just as offensive to an editor as it is to a man of refluement. Again, do not rancy because you are acanginted with the man who writes the

Do not go into the editor's office to "cheen



anyone else, and yet have to be cheered u by men who are the life and sunlight of a

Welcome the Editor Extends. The only editor who succeeds in making his office a delightful rendezvous is the editor who finds himself at the close of the second year with "a host of friends," a large exchange list and two bundles of get out. When I ran a paper I did not re-fuse to see anybody. Almost anybody could drop in casually and have fun with me. Even when the bailiff came in, and I knew that I ought to work, I said: "Come right in. I never have refused anybody yet, and it is too late now to begin." So he came

The manner in which you met the editor you speak of was extremely fortunate. Always meet an editor on the train if you can, especially if you wish to subsidize him. His wite's ill health will be a good thing, not so much for her, but for yourself.
You are no doubt getting a good property

the good will of the paper as I did for the navy revolver which I had used in securing You need an organ if you contemplate coming before the people as a candidate, and I would say that you should lose no time in closing the trade. Unless he has basely deceived you regarding the bucket

The Use of an Organ in Politics. are a candidate is that while you can say the most fulsome things about yourself no one will suspect that you have any interest in the paper. No one ever does. With a paper, Mr. Smith, you will be surprised to notice how the public will be as clay in your hands. Guard with jealous care the good will of the paper. I used to put the good will of my paper on top of the dictionary, and then put the dictionary in my chair to make it high enough to fit the desk. When the office was afterward shot into by admirers of the paper, the good will and the dictionary alone escaped mutilation. You will excuse me, Mr. Smith, if in closing I wish you well, and also express my amazement that a green politician should punctuate so well and write such good copy for the printer as you do. Can it be that you are, after all, a jour-

FACTS ABOUT COLOR BLINDNESS.

Youth's Companion. 1 While the number of color-blind persons s not very large, only about five in every hundred suffering from any detect in this respect, and most of those being affected only in a minor degree, yet the phenomenon sometimes assumes very remarkable phases. Captain Abney recently stated that he had found two persons who possessed monochromatic vision, that is to say, all colors appeared to them to be simply differ-

a landscape, or better, of a garden filled with brilliant flowers, he will be able to form an 'idea of the appearance which na ure must present to one who suffers from the infliction called monochromatic vision. One can sometimes imitate the effects of color-blindness through over-fatigue of the eye. Thus Mr. Brett, the English painter, told the members of the Royal Astronomical Society not long ago, that in painting scarlet geranium, after working at it for a quarter of an hour, the artist will not know that it is scarlet at all, but will go on painting it as if it were black or colorless. "Red," he explained, "is a very irritant color to the retina," and he added that "you

VALUE OF OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS.

Yet Quite Understood. The value of many documents issued from our Government members is but little understood by the people of this country, says a writer in the St. Louis Globe-Democrat. It is a fact, however, that some of the most valuable contributions to the knowledge of this country are made in the form of public

Every Consul is required to transmit to the Government whatever is of interest in the city where he is stationed, and a volume lar reports is often as interesting as

While the reports of the Government agricultural stations ought to be in the hands of every farmer, and if properly used would increase the aggregate production of our land 10 per cent in a single year, yet neither teachers nor farmers seem as a rule to care for these documents, and, although they are to be had for the asking, thousands of them every year, it is said, are left undistributed ecause no one calls for them.

lent hits have been made in this practice. A New Way of Washing.

NOTES AND QUERIES.

How the Cholera Appears in One of the World's Famous Novels.

ENTERING THE ARMY AND NAVY.

The Party in Power Sits to the Right in Legislative Bodies.

LONGEST TRIALS ON COURT RECORDS

[WRITTEN FOR THE DISPATCH.] Has the cholera ever been made the sub-ject of a novel—the deus ex machina, so to speak? D. M. W.

It was Eugene Sue who in his great story "The Wandering Jew," used the cholera as a deus ex machina. In that story Ahasuerus, the Wandering Jew, marches on his eternal journey, and with him moves the cholera. Sue pointed out that the cholera moved about five leagues a day, as much as an elderly man walks, and describes the Jewas aware of his companion, but unable to rid himself of its presence. In the story the Jew and the cholera together are det ex machina, protecting the Rennepont family, and finally circumventing the efforts of Rodin to obtain for his order the possession of the vast fortune of the family.

The cholera affords the motif for the famous song, "Revelry in India," beginning. "We meet 'neath the sounding rafter. And the walls around are bare." This was written about the same time that Sue's story was, and has been ascribed to many different persons; among others, to Alfred Domett, to Bartholomew Dowling, to a brother of Daniel O'Connell; but we think the real author is as yet unknown.

What are the conditions on which one enters the United States military and naval academies? Please give me full information.
WILLIAM F.

Appointments to the academies are made in turn by the Congressman; generally a Congressman learns that he will have the right to nominate a candidate for one or the other academy about one year before the candidate need appear at the military academy and about three months in advance for the naval academy; he then selects a candidate and an alternate. They must be be tween 15 and 20 years of age for the naval tween 15 and 20 years of age for the naval academy, and 17 and 22 for the military academy, and must pass a rigid physical examination and a hard mental examination. This latter, however, is in the subjects taught in the high schools, the ordinary English branches. The physical examination is the harder of the preliminary examinations, however. The course at the military school lasts four years, at the end of which cadets passing successfully are commissioned second lieutenants in the army. The course at the naval academy lasts four The course at the naval academy lasts for years; then successful cadets pass two years years; then successful cadets pass two years at sea; on the expiration of their cruise they pass another examination, when they are commissioned ensigns. For detailed information write to the superintendents of the academies at West Point, N. Y., and Annapolis, Md.

How many international rifle matches have there been? How many were held in this country?

G. A. O.

There have been eight, of which five were held at Creedmoor. They were held as follows: September 26, 1874, at Creedmoor, when the American team beat the Irish team; June 29, 1875, at Dollymount, near Dublin; the American team won; September 13-16, 1876, when the American team beat teams representing Ireland, Scotland, Australia and Canada; September 21, 1876, when America beat Ireland; September 13-14, 1877, at Creedmoor, when the American team beat the British team; June 29, 1880, at Dollymount, when the American team beat the Irish; September 14-15, 1882, at Creedmoor, with military rifles, the British Creedmoor, when the British Creedmoor, with military rifles, the British Creedmoor, when the American teams of the A ish team winning; July 20-21, 1883, at Wimbledon, England, with military rifles, the British team winning. The Wimbledon

What is meant by the names Right, Left and Center, and sometimes even Moderate Right, etc., as applied to continental Parlia-ments?

Just as with us the Republicans in the House of Representatives sit on one side of the passageway and the Democrats on the other; and as in the British Parliament the members of the party in power sit on the right hand side of the Speaker; so in the continental Parliaments the parties sit as much as possible by themselves. The Right always means at the right of the Presiding Officer. At his extreme right sit the High Conservatives; then come the by the Moderates: at the left sit the Rad icals, the variety getting more extreme the farther left one goes. The names of the parties differ in each country, but they seat themselves on this principle always.

Can any person go from this country to Europe and bring back free of duty any amount of clothing, regardless of whether it is silk, wool or other fabrict S. C. H. No. In the decision of the United State Court in the case of Astor against the Collector of the Port of New York, which is the authority in the matter, it was laid down that a person could bring back from abroad free of duty clothing suitable to his condition in life. That is, that a wealthy man-a person usually described as a "gentleman"—can bring in many suits of clothes, underclothes, etc., because they are such as he uses; and that a mechanic, who does not use so many different suits of clothes, can-not bring such clothing in free. A bill has been submitted to Congress to prevent per-sons from bringing in free of duty more than \$100 worth of clothing; and it has

passed the House of Representatives.

When was the Beecher-Tilton trial?
J. KELLY. The trial began on Tuesday, January 1875, and ended on July 2, 1875, when the jury, after being out several days, reported that they were unable to agree, and were dismissed. The trial is one of the longest on record; the Tichborne trials surpassed it, however. The civil suit brought by "the elaimant" to obtain the Tichborne title and estates began May 11, 1871, and occupied 103 days, until March 6, 1872, when the jury interposed, declaring against the claiman thereupon the claimant was indicted for perjury and forgery, and brought to trial on April 23, 1872. The trial lasted 198 days, until February 28, 1874, when the claimant was found guilty. The Tichborne trial is the longest anywhere on record.

"Why do we have on our clocks and watcher four strokes (IIII) to mark 4 o'clock, instead of the usual IV?

J. M. W.

One story says that Charles V. of Spain, who in his madness devoted himself to man aging an infinite number of clocks, made four strokes by mistake and refused atterward to correct his error. Watchmakers of o-day, however, have forgotten why they use IIII instead of IV. They do it in accordance with a long-standing tradition. It may be that IIII is used to complete the three groups into which the figures on clock faces are divided, the first group consisting entirely of repetitions of the Roman figure I, the second consisting of V and I, the third of X and I used in various ways.

How many calls for volunteers were there during the Civil War and how many drafts: Conscarr's Sox.

There were eight calls for volunteers and our drafts. The calls were as follows April 15, 1861, for 75,000 men for three nonths; May 3, 1861, 42,034 men for three years, 22,714 men for the regular army and 18,000 men for the navy; July 3, 1862, 300, 000 men. October 17, 1863, 300,000 men for

three years; February 1, 1864, 200,000 men for two years; March 14, 1864, 200,000 men for two years; July 18, 1864, 500,000 men for one, two and three years; December 19, 1864, 300,000 men for one, two and three years. The first draft was in July, 1863; the second April, 1864; the third immediately after the call of July, 1864, and the last immediately after the call of December, 1864.

What is meant by "Blue Laws?"
TEACHER. The original Blue Laws were drawn up in 1650 for the governance of the people of Connecticut. The people were Congregational Presbyterians; the title "blue" had long been applied to the Presbyterians, perhaps originally because their ministers covered their preaching tub with a blue cloth, until it had come to mean anything as strict as the Presbyterians. So, partly because the Connecticut people were Pres-byterians and partly because the laws were very strict the laws were called "blue." Nowadays the prohibitory laws of various States and the Sunday laws are called "Blue Laws" because of their strictness, either real or fancied.

When, on what day of the week, was the Exposition building in Allegheny City burned? On October 3, 1883, which came upon Wednesday.

Apropos of a note in this column last Sunday, G. L. E., of New Brighton, Pa., writes:

Sunday, G. L. E., of New Brighton, Pa., writes:

I am inclined to think that your reply to E. F. P. in last Sunday's issue in explanation of what is meant by Congressmen at large will not be satisfactory to him or anyone who does not understand the phrase. The question has no doubt been asked by E. F. P. because two representatives at large to Congress are to be chosen at the next general election. I have been many times asked, "How does it happen we have to elect two Congressmen at large this fall?" The answer is: The Representatives in the Lower House of Congress are apportioned to each State in accordance with the population, as ascertained at each decennial census. This apportionment is usually made at the first sitting of Congress a ter the census has been taken. The last census—that of 1890—gives Pennsylvania two more Representatives than were given her by the census of 1880. After Congress has determined how many Representatives each State shall have, it is then the duty, or at least the privilege, of the Legislatures of the several States to divide the States into Congressional districts equal in number to the Representatives to which we are entitled in the next Congress: therefore, in order to have our full representation, all the voters in the State are allowed to participate in the election of the two for which the Legislature has failed to provide districts. I believe no reason exists why the whole number of Representatives should not be put on the State ticket and chosen by the electors at large, but, for the purpose of bringing each one more closely to his constituents, and making bim the immediate representatives, and making bim the immediate representatives, and making bim the immediate representatives of a definite portion of the people, it has been decided good policy to have them chosen by districts.

TWO ANCIENT ROMAN AUTHORS.

TWO ANCIENT ROMAN AUTHORS.

Medallions of Horatius and Virgil Lately

er Guardian.] Lovers of literature will be interested in he recent discovery in a small house of the buried city of Pompeii of two medallions representing respectively Horace and Virgil. The death of Horace occurred eight rears before the Christian era, and that of Virgil 10 years earlier, while the date of the

destruction of Pompeii by the eruption of Vesuvius is A. D. 79. Hence the portraits are not cotemporary, though they cannot be placed very long after the age of the poets. But although hey are in that respect only fancy portraits, M. Gaston Boissier has pointed out to the French Academie des Inscriptions that the have a distinct resemblance to the minia-tures of Horace and Virgil given in the manuscripts of the tweltth and thirteenth enturies. The Pompeiian medallions ar only of a very me-floore character when re-garded solely from an artistic standpoint. This very fact strengthens the idea of a conpresentment of the two poets. The Point have had no direct connection, but they nay easily have derived their figures from a

Another point of interest is to see the popular criticism within less than a cen-tury after their death, linking together Horace and Virgil. How enduring their that now, after the lapse of 19 centuries they have more readers and admirers than at any preceding period. It is to be feared that few of the literary reputations of modern ages will withstand so successfully "the

cankered tooth of Time.' AUTHORS OF FAMOUS HYMNS. In Spite of Their Songs They Often Live in

Entire Oblivion. Roston Globe.] It seems a singular fact that apparently nothing in a literary way will relegate a writer to oblivion so surely as to be the author of a world-famous hymn.

Take a few instances: Nearly everyone has heard or sung the ine of "Shall We Gather at the River?" and yet how many know even the name of the author, much less the fact that he is

iving?
The writer is the Rev. Robert Lowry, D. Da a resident of Plainfield, N. J. In Richmond, Ill., lives Dr. S. Fillmore Bennett. To how many is the name famil-iar, yet to whom is his familiar church "The Sweet By and By." not known? In the interior of New York State lives Mrs. Annie Sherwood Hawks, who wrote those famed lines of "I Need Thee Every Hour.

Hardly known and never recognized on the streets of New York as she walks out is Fannie Crosby, the author of countless hymns, among them the famous one, "Safe in the Arms of Jesus." It is odd that the veil of obscurity should seem to be the inevitable reward of those pens have given us the hymns which

have brought consolation and joy to so many BASKING IN THE SUN.

"Basking in the sun" is in itself of real

It Would Be Well for Mankind So to Copy Animala,

and considerable benefit, and it is no compliment to our human intelligence to find that cats and dogs understand that fact much better than we do, says Dr. Hutchinson in the North American Review. Even the "blue grass" craze had a truth underlying it, and owed such success as it achieved to the proportion of sunlight which penetrated its colored medium. The love of sunshine is naturally one of our strongest instincts, and we should be far healthier and happier if we followed and developed it instead of practically ignoring and repressing it. How a sparkling, sunny morning exhibarates us and makes us feel that 'it's too fine a day to spend indoors," and yet how few holidays are taken for that reason. The wealth of the sunbeams is poured out lavishly all around us, and we urn from it to struggle for a few pitiful handfuls of something else that is yellow and shining, but not half so likely to bring us happiness, and often has strange, red spots upon it. Give nature a chance, and we will find that there is more than a mere fanciful connection between natural sun-light and that "sunny" disposition, which, after all, is the true "philosopher's stone.

When Baby was sick, we gave her Castoria. When she was a Child, she cried for Castoria. When she became Miss, she clung to Castoria. When she had Children, she gave them Castoria LIGHTNING ON THE OCEAN.

Very Few Precautions Are Taken to Gus Vessels Against Accidents. New York Times.]

An electric storm at sea is one of the alarming experiences to which a mariner is exposed, but, as a matter of record, it is one that is least fruitful in disastrous results. As a rule few precautions are taken to guard against a stroke of lightning. especially in the merchant service.

Ships of war are usually fitted with lightning conductors-a precaution made necessary by the explosives stored away in their magazines. But these safeguards are seldom seen on a merchant vessel, and, judging by the extreme rarity of the cases where they have been struck, Jack's claim that he is safer on the ocean than on shore during an electrical disturbance must be admitted

It is a well-established theory that one caught in a thunderstorm should not take refuge under a tall tree, especially if it stands in a clearing. Why lightning should strike an isolated piece of timber on shore and spare it after it has been converted into a vessel's mast is yet to be satisfactorily explained.

SICK HEADACHE-Carter's Little Liver Pills. SICK HEADACHE-Carter's Little Liver Pills. SICK HEADACHE-Carter's Little Liver Pills, SICK HEADACHE-Carter's Little Liver Pills.

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What we hear daily about the doings and ondition of Corbett and Sullivan is extremely interesting; but I venture to say that what we do not hear or read would be much more interesting if we knew it. The most won-

Sullivan. Now, I don't believe these reports, any more than I would believe the report of one of them growing six inches taller in one night. Here is a sample report. A day or two ago we were told that Sullivan, after performing a very great amount of work, went out and ran ten miles in 55 minutes. That is within three minutes of the American record time the time mode. the American record time; the time made some years ago by our friend Steele. Sullivan, under special preparation and on an excellent track, might be able to come near. Steele's time, but it is simply preposterous to try to persuade people that he could come near record time at Long Branch and

A LILLIPUTIAN NAVAL BATTLE.

which has the larger number of ships nearest

turns the chalk Since the patriotic youth will want to see the American boats win, it will be well for him to remember that the best quality of

to glide easily. HOW TO KEEP COOL Practical Hints to Those Who Suffer in the

at-homes are the ones who are on the lookout for something to make them feel a little more comfortable when the thermometer is up in the nineties and the energies down to

be avoided religiously.

Next wear thin clothes and eat light food, such as salads, ices and cold tea, and avoid heavy, hot and greasy viands. From 5 to 7 when they should again be thrown wide open until bedtime. In this way the heat of the day is kept out and the sweeter, cooler breezes of the dawning and the wanoppressive. Change it once or twice and on will find that the temperature will be perceptibly lowered. It won't hurt you to

countless swarms, devouring everything estable, and even gutting the timbers of dwelling houses so that the latter are re-

musical column on Sundays that you can claim the political support of the paper. Do not, because you have been out late with the editor, fool yourself with the idea that he will let you dictate the course of the paper. You might come in on him during one of his lucid intervals and be thrown out. Editors do not feel bound to drop their work in the morning and play croquet with the casual outcasts whom they met the evening before.

him up." You would not go into a mer-chant's office to cheer him up, would you? Not if he saw you first. Editors are the only ones who have twice as much to do as

smoking car and have an hour or two to spare, so come in to "swap lies with the editor."

if you buy the paper. Do not count too much, however, on the good will of a paper. When I closed out at what was called by the foreign clothier, who closed me out, "a great sacofize," I did not get so much for

and the potash, you will do well to close with him at once. The beauty of having an organ while you

Looking Steadily at One Color Makes It Lose Its Particular Hue.

ent shades of gray.

If the reader will look at a photograph of

can look at green until all is blue."

The Good to Be Derived From Them No

a book of travels. In addition the Bureau of Education sends out every year an immense mass of literary matter pertaining to the educational systems of this and other

Saving Money in War Practice. The British naval authorities are saving money in a novel way in connection with big gun practice. The Benbow has been practicing a good deal with her 110-ton guns, and, as this gun throws a projectile weighing 1,800 pounds, the expense of each shot runs pretty high. So tubes have been placed in the bores of the big guns which fit a musket cartridge, and while the big guns are themselves handled and aimed, all that is fired is a musket bullet. Some excel-

A French paper says that a laundryman of Paris has discovered a method of cleans ing fine linen and other fragile textures without using soap or other chemicals. In stead of these he uses boiled potatoes, which he rubs into the goods and then rinses out. It is said that this method will make soiled linen, silk, or cotton much whiter and purer than washing in the ordinary way.