A Story of Uncle John Covode.

The Washington correspondent of the Cincinnati Commercial writes as follows: I have heard a funny anecdote about the late John Covode, this morning,

which is worth repeating: I do not know whether the doctor used to prescribe whiskey for Covode or not, but I presume he did not, for Uncle John was too faultless a man to drink whiskey unless it was good for him. At any rate, he used to keep it in his room, and drink some when he felt a little faint. He came from a whiskey-pro-ducing district, and the boys used to say that he always had on hand a nice article. In those days, before we had any Congressional Temperance Societies, when McDougal, Yates, and such kindred spirits were in their prime, whiskey used to be sold at the restaurants in the Capitol, and it was not unfrequently kept in some of the committee-rooms.

If the Chairman of a committee was bibulously inclined, and several of the same feather on the committee with him, the chances were that a thirsty soul could always find comfort in that room. Covode at that time was Chairman of the Committee on Public Buildings and Grounds, the same over which Mr. Halsey, of New Jersey, now so ably presides.

There was not much business for the committee to do, and the room was a handsome one, with lounges, and armchairs, and all the inviting influences; besides, it was convenient. It was bandy for the members to run into during the long debates, to smoke a cigar and have a chat, and at almost any hour in the day a party of jolly members might be found in that room, drinking, smoking and telling stories. The whiswas plenty. Covode was liberal with it; case after ease came to his address from Pennsylvania-a dozen bottles, two dozen bottles, a small keg, a demijohn, all sorts.

One day, early in the session, Covode told one of his friends that there was a good deal of whiskey drank in that room. His friend seemed perfectly indifferent to the information, merely an-

swering, "I s'pose so."
"Well," said Covode, "I don't so much object to the boys drinking all ambitious to keep a wholesale establishment. A fair retail business is all I care for. They may come here if they are our friends, and drink as much as they

Have a new lock put on your wash-

"That's a good idea," said Uncle with doors in front and a marble top. This would hold a keg of whiskey, two or three demijohns, or a couple of dozen bottles. The new lock did not seem to work very satisfactorily. A day or two after, the lock was changed again; no ed lock was put on. Then the robbery was to stop sure. The very next night a demijohn disappeared.

It was but natural that by this time, the copyright elsewhere. Uncle John became a little discouraged and unhappy. Still he could not give up the luxury and satisfaction of having something nice about him all the time. It was pleasant to give a friend a drink once in a while, and it was sociable, and finally he got mad and swore he would be doggoned if he wouldn't keep a little of the stuff in his room, and he would be full problems which oppress mankind doggoned if he would allow anybody to

steal it either. So he set a trap. A new stock had arrived that day, and he put it in the wash-stand, as usual. After the House adjourned, he concealed himself in the but still fonder of Uncle John's whiskey. Still Uncle John laid low, but kept his eyes open. The two men walked straight the washstand and deliberately ped out and said :

"That'll do boys; I want the rest." laughter and was succeeded by drinks. while directing its first soarings." It was a good joke on both sides, but Uncle John Covode, to the day of his death, never forgave the Democratic party for that trick.

## A Gigantie Railway Car.

Among the mechanical novelties, to tral Dopot in this city (New York), is a steam railway car seventy feet wide which travels on a track of corresponding width.

This great vehicle is made in the form of a low platform car, and the track on which it runs is provided with four rails, extending from Fourth avenue to Madison Avenue. The car is used for the lateral transfer of passenger cars from the main tracks of the Hudson River, right—the little girl, or the others of the Harlem, and New Haven Railways to the various side tracks, thus avoiding the use of turntables. The car is propelled by steam, the engine and boiler being contained within a sheet iron

house carried on one side of the machine. The ears to be transferred are run upon the great car; steam is then turned on and the huge machine trots off pendent axles. There are in addition four driving wheels arranged upon one axle. It was proposed not long ago to construct a grain railway from York to Chicago, on a gauge of 12 feet. That was considered a big thing in the way of broad gauges. But it is a pigmy compared with this seventy foot gauge railway and locomotive of the Grand Central. - Scientific American.

-old Simon Lang, who for many years has been the lone survivor of a long line of self appointed dignitaries. He pernoble and powerful houses, including the Villierses, the Beaucleres, the Coventrys, and others of almost equal standing. He long outlived all his competidays of old Gretna, but still he continued in harness to the last.

### Theatrical and Operatic Singers.

A New York paper gives the following particulars regarding the salaries reeived by the leading operatic and dramatic artists in that city. It appears that Carl Rosa gives Wachtel \$500 a right and half the house above \$3,000. It is not unusual for \$7,000 to be taken for an evening's performance of opera, in which case Herr Wachtel takes \$2,500 as his share. Charles Santley, the eminent baritone, receives \$5,000 in gold per month; Miss Adelaide Phillips Und \$1,000 for the same time. Mrs. Van Zandt receives a pleasant little income of \$1,500 per month, and then we come Zandt receives a pleasant little income of \$1,500 per month, and then we come lown immediately to two hundred dol-

Brignoli, \$1,600; Jamet, \$1,000, and so on down. The following are stated to be the salaries given at Wallack's: John Brougham is paid \$200 per week; Charles Matthews, \$500; John Gilbert, "the veteran," \$100; J. H. Stoddart, \$75; Mr. Polk, \$50; Miss Plessy Mordaunt, \$100; Miss Helen Tracy, \$60; Mrs. John Sefton, \$75. The nightly expenses as Wallack's are \$700; the receipts average about \$1,000. At Daly's Fifth Avenue theatre Miss Fanny Morant receives the they want, but I don't want them to walk off with it in wholesale. I'm not short time furnished her own dresses, or two of vines the sulphur may be Now, Mr. Daly pays half this expense. want, but I don't want them to steal it. Mr. Daly for two years. Nor is Mr. also the stems and fruit in time, and is I don't want them to take a bottle to-Daly to blame, for he employed Miss one of the most destructive diseases the day, a demijohn to-morrow, and a keg Morris when every theatre in town re-the next day." Morris when every theatre in town re-fused the profer of her services; James Lewis is paid \$150 per week, the largest salary in the company; Mr. Parkes, \$50; Mr. Davidge, \$80; Mr. Crisp, \$40, Mrs. John; "it's a wonder I hadn't thought of it before." So a new lock was put on the wash-stand—a large rose-wood case Robert Stoepel, the orchestral leader, \$80. Mr. Roberts, the scene painter, whose artistic productions have been so generally admired, receives \$100 per week. The expenses of the Fifth Avenue theatre average about \$500 a night, and the receipts seldom fall less than use—more whiskey gone mysteriously. \$800 or \$000 The place when packed Finally, a very intricate and complicat—will hold about \$1,100. Mr. Daly is said to have made some \$50,000 on "Divorce," not alone by its production at his own theatre, but by the sale of

### Books for Children.

of the stuff in his room, and he would be ful problems which oppress mankind well-known native kinds, require more their most terrible and depressing aspects. She would not have a child glibly taught the horrors of life, the wickedness of being, the secrets of the charnel-house, the bloodshed, the morroom, and waited. He did not have to tal hatreds that disfigure the fair earth. wait long. He heard two pairs of feet It is, of course, impossible to shield him tiptoeing up to the door. He laid low. from the sight of surrounding evil; so Pretty soon a key turned in the lock much the more reason for making him and then two men entered. From his love what is good and beautiful, and hiding place, Uncle John peeped out and recognized two waggish Democratic members, who were fond of their joke, ed to stone, either by the fear which which produces egotism or by the indifference which consecrates it. I have of-ten been told," she adds, "that I keep children's souls too much in cotton wool. Does not nature itself teach us this by lifted off the top! That was all, but it | Does not nature itself teach us this by was enough for Uncle John! He kept | imparting to mothers the instinct of pre quiet, however, until they had handed serving the most fragile creatures at the out two or three bottles. Then he step- cost of the minutest precautions? Is not the young bird brought up in the softest down till its wings have grown? There was at first consternation on one | The wings of the soul will show themside, as may be imagined; and anger on | selves when the time comes, and you the other, but these soon gave way to have many other precautions to take

Sour Grapes.-A friend related one norning a scene in a schoolroom, which we think will do to publish, and is teo good to keep, as follows: It is the custom in the school to read a moral lesson each morning, when the teacher questions the scholars on what has been read. he seen in operation at the Grand Cen- The day our friend visited the school the lesson was a sort of narrative, in which it was stated that a teacher ha! told his class not to touch the fruit which grew n a neighboring orchard, but to wait until it was perfectly ripe, and the should all have a share of it. They a. disobeyed the command with the exception of a little girl-she alone refraining from touching the fruit. The question asked by the teacher was, "Which did

class ?" The unanimous answer was: "The little girl." The next question was:

"Why did not the little girl also take the fruit?" This appeared to puzzle the class, and for a long time no one was ready to answer. At length a little fellow at the with its burden with as much ease as a foot of his class held up his hand, which horse draws a buggy. The machine is supported on eight wheels, arranged on the answer. He was told to proceed, was equivalent to saying he could give when he astonished the teachers and convulsed our friend by exclaiming:

"Pleath, thir, she wath too little to

reach it." THE BRIGHT SIDE .- Look on the bright side. It is the right side. The times may be hard, but it will make them no easier to wear a gloomy and sad countenance. It is sunshine, and not the cloud, that makes the flower. The last of the Gretna priests is dead | The sky is blue ten times where it is black once. You have troubles, so have others. None are free from them. Trouble gives sinew and tone to lifeformed the marriage ceremony for the runaway scions of a great number of noble and powerful houses, including would never get skill, where there was nothing to disturb the surface of the What though things look a litocean. tle dark, the lane will turn, and night tors, and saw the decline of the golden days of old Gretna, but still he continhemisphere of clouds and gloom.

### AGRICULTURAL.

lars per week, such as are received by Anysley Cook, Mad. Doria, Seguin, Tom rubbed off at the same time. The young Karl, and so on. The Nilsson opera is shoots left on grow rapidly, and are, more expensive. Mr. Strakosch pays when 18 inches to 2 feet long, tender Mlle. Nilsson \$1,000 a performance, and and easily broken off by a strong wind shares all over \$3,000. The houses or a heavy rain storm. To guard against average nearly \$5,000. Besides this all any such mishap, the vine-dresser should her expenses of residence, travelling, see that the young shoots are fastened carriages, etc., are paid by the management. This great singer returns to Europe with very near \$300,000 of American money. The Strakosch brothers have made \$116,000 each on the with rank growing vines, the ends of Nilsson engagement of two seasons. Of the bearing shoots may be pinched off sheep & LAMIS-Sheep. he other artists of the Nilsson troupe, four or five eyes beyond the last bunch M. Capoul, the French tenor, received of fruit. This will encourage the growth \$200 per month: Miss Cary, the fine of the fruit and at the same time encontralto, who returns here in the fall able the owner to keep the young shoots within bounds of the trellis. Pinching with Carlotta Patti, gets \$1,600 per month; Mlle. Duval, \$1,400 per month; off the ends of the shoots will force n growth of laterals, and these in time should be removed while small, say two or three inches in length. From the start one of the main objects in pruning is to have the shoots so fastened that there is a free circulation of air around every part, and at the same time have if possible a healthy foliage. On this will depend the growth and ripening of the crop of truit. Among the more serious diseases that injure the leaves is mildew. the appearance of which is familiar to those who have paid any attention to highest salary in the female line-\$120 | the culture of the vine, either foreign or per week—nothing less could induce her to leave Booth's. Miss Fanny Daven-port is paid \$100, and what seems spread of this disease and fatal effect strange, Miss Clara Morris, who is the upon the crop of fruit. The mildew best drawing power in the theatre, and an actress of wonderful ability, only resprinkled on with a small dredge-box, Mr. Wallack has offered Clara Morris but in the vineyard a sulphur bellows \$200 per week, but she is unable to acwill be found much better. This fungus cept it as she has signed a contract with growth not only attacks the leaves, but preparation seems destined to be universalive grape-grower has to contend with. Some varieties suffer more from this disease than others. Among the kinds that the mildew affects worst on the writer's grounds are the Iona, Diana, Catawba and Delaware. The Concord, Hartford Prolific, Clinton, and Norton's Virginia, grown on the same ground, and under the same treatment, are seldom injured

from this disease.

In planting, it is better to select varieties that will make a strong, healthy eaf, and when mildew appears apply the sulphur. Close summer pruning often recommended as a preventive against this disease, but in the experience of the writer, it has not prevented or checked mildew on young or old vines. With native vigorous growing kinds close summer pruning is not practiced to anything like the extent that it was ten years ago, and every year's experi-

-with poverty, crime and suffering in room when the vines get to be eight to ten years old.

In garden culture, grape-vines are often injured and the fruit lost by overstimulating the vines. Vines will make a rank growth of wood and leaf when planted on rich ground, but under such treatment the fruit will shed, leaving the bunches straggling and irregular Ground in average heart will produce the most satisfactory results, both in wood, leaf, and fruit. The most experienced growers fully understand this for grape-vines should be thoroughly decomposed before application. By following this plan the growth of wood and leaf is more capable of carrying

through to maturity the crop of fruit. Young vines planted this spring need onstant attention the first year. This does not entail much labor. Only one shoot should be allowed to grow the first year; all others should be rubbed taste and health. off when the strongest is selected. When a foot long the shoot ought to be fastened to a stake or it may be broken off, which will be a loss and a disappointment at the same time. - N. Y. Tribune.

-It is surprising that so many families in the country are willing to live year after year, without cultivating a single grapevine about their dwellings. They are compelled to purchase that delicious fruit for the table, or not taste it during the season. There is a common impression that to cultivate grapes perfectly, a vast amount of knowledge and tact is required. To many the simple trim-

g of a vine is a mystery, more diffio comprehend than the hardest of Euclid. This is an erroneons view, and ought not to prevail. Any person of common intelligence can learn in an hour how to trim and nourish vines; and, if instruction cannot be obtained from some experienced cultiva-tor, there are books filled with cuts and illustrations which make everything plain. Three vines of as many different varieties, planted in some sunuy nook, or by the side of some building, so as to obtain shelter, will, if properly cared for, furnish many a bushel of delicious grapes every year. Select a Concord, a Delaware, and an Adirondack; make the ground mellow and rich by the use of a spade, and by employing old ma-nure, finely ground bones, and ashes; and set out the plants. In three years the rich clusters will appear, and in four years the product will be abundant. It is well to have vines planted so that the waste liquids from the dwellings can be used in fertilization. If there is any food the vine especially loves, it is the soapy liquids which accumulate on washing days in families. Vines drenched every week with these liquids will flourish astonishingly, and extend themselves so as to cover large buildings, every branch bearing fruit. We say to our readers plant vines .- Science of

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which it has everywhere acquired.
Dr. Walker claims for his specific a reme dial power over all disorders that do not involve an irreparable destruction of bone and fibre, and results so far appear to have justified the claim. In this age of wonders we are not disposed to deny the possibility of any phe-nomena not directly at variance with the laws of nature, and as it is held by many physiologists that all maladies proceed from the same generic enuse, we see no reason for the incredulity with which some people regard the idea of a Universal Medicine.

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