

#### NIL DESPERANDUM.

Countn

## RIDGWAY, ELK COUNTY, PA., THURSDAY, JANUARY 23, 1879.

Epigrams.

VOL. VIII.

A pompous attorney, while trying a cause Was quizzing a witness and looking for flaws. The witness, who owed him a personal gradge, Provoked him until he appealed to the judge. "I demand, sir," he cried, with a flery-red face,

" A little attention while trying this case." "Your honor," responded the meek little man "I'm paying as little as any one can." The judge, with a frown, Looked solemnly down

On the squabble, and said, from the bench where he sat.

"We want nothing but silence, and little of that."

Said young Romeo Butts to Miss Claribel Cutts,

(As they stood in a parlor resplendent with light), With a wearisome sigb, "Oh, I cannot tell why,

But somehow, I feel like a fool here to-night. Said Miss Claribel Cutts to Romeo Butts, With a pitiless smile that she could not con

"Yes, your face would betray, I am sure, wha you say,

For you certainly look all you say that you feel."

true-

"Oh, husband !" said Mrs. Opbella McMunn, As she gazed at her willful and passionate son, "Where that boy got his temper, I never could

I'm certain he never could take it from me." "No doubt, my dear wife, your assertion i

I never have missed any temper from you." -Chicago Tribune.

THE STORY OF TWO SINGERS.

An Italian vessel had reached the shores of America. The passengers had landed. The wealthy had been taken to their hotels or their friends' homes in carriages. The poor folk, who still had some certain destination and some one to greet and meet, had been led away under friendly guidance, after many embraces and much gesticulation, or had taken cars and omnibusses for the purpose of reaching their homes and the welcome that awaited them. Some, the welcome that awarded them. Some, poor and foilorn, were wandering vague-fy about the Battery—the prey of emi-grant boarding-honsekeepers—and one, poorest and most forlorn of all, sat upon a beach under a great tree and wept silently. She was a woman. She was young and of the peasant class. Her husband had died upon the voyage. She had not a friend in America, and some thief had stolen her purse from under her pillow, as she slept between her little children in her berth in the

her fittle children in her berth in the steerage. She bad only a great bag, with a few shabby garments, and these two chil-dren, and a pair of earrings, which she might, perhaps, sell for a little bread— in all the world. As she stared out upon the water, which had swept away the body of her dead husband, and which still covered it, she was very which still covered it, she was very

bitterly. "What a beautiful child," said many, and one or two spoke to her, but she did not understand, and could not answer them. At last there came along the street an old Italian with an organ on his back, and a monkey perch-ed upon it. He paused in front of the child. "What has happened to the pretty little girl? Has she lost hersel?" he asked ; and the child, glad to hear words that she could comprehend, told him her story. "The old man listened kindly. "Dry your tears, pretty one," he said. "We will find your mother, and mean-while, you shall have supper with me and my monkey. Bee what a fine monkey. He will shake hands with the pretty lit-le girl, and bow." The old man base supper with me and took of his velvet cap by the crown with the other. The told along by the side of the organ grinder, and had macaroni with him in the totted along by the side of the organ grinder, and had macaroni with him in the totted along by the side of the organ grinder, and had macaroni with him in the dismal little room in a terribleol tene-ment house. She had no doubt that he could find her mother for her-her

with the other. His pranks amused the child. She trotted along by the side of the organ-grinder, and had macaroni with him in a dismal little room in a terrible old tene-ment house. She had no doubt that he could find her mother for her-her mother and her little sister Francesca; for Bianca was only six years old and

She drew it from her bosom. "Your name?" cried the prima

for Bianca was only six years old, and at that age we are always hopeful. But the old man who, after the frugal supper, went about to do what he could to find the child's mother, soon learned the truth. donns. "Bianca," said the girl. "I am Francesca !" cried the other. She held out her arms, and the next moment the two girls sobbed upon each the child's mother, soon learned the truth. He knew Bianca was the child of the poor woman who had been killed; and though he kept the knowledge to him-self with a dread of mysterious evil, per-sonal consequences peculiar to foreign-ers who do not quite understand the laws of the land—and scarcely to be wondered at—he generously resolved to take care of the little girl, to whom he did not tell the truth. Bianca believed that her mother would soon come back, until she forgot her grief; but the old man bought a little bit of black ribbon and suspended to it the solitary earring. moment the two girls sobbed upon each other's bosom. Francesca had been adopted by a rich man, who had developed her great tal-ent by all the means in his power. And now she herself was winning fame and fortune. A great joy had come to her in the restoration of her sister, and she took her at once and forever to her heart and home.

and home. And the old Italian, in the comfort of a luxurions home and the society of his adopted daughter, who soon followed in

Flax Culture.

her sister's footsteps, and became a great singer, found himself well repaid for his kindness to the orphan child, and ended his days in peace and happiand suspended to it the solitary earring. "Never part with it," he said. "It is a memento of your mother, pretty

He had a little poetry in his breast,

as most Italians have, though he was only a poor organ-grinder. Every day when he went out with his monkey and his organ, he took the child with him. She held the plate, into which the patterns of this cheme The common flax is a native of Egypt or possibly the elevated plains of central

into which the patrons of this cheap concert dropped their coin. After awhile, he taught her to sing After awhile, he taught her to sing some little songs. Italian children can always sing; and it was no loss to him to have adopted this little creature, for he never made half as much before. The child bronght him luck. One day a musician heard her sing, and offered to teach her to sing better. Her voice was full and rich. She studied carefully. She was beautiful and attractive. As she grew up the old man began to see

she grew up the old man began to see that he must no longer take her into the

street. "Stay at home, pretty one," he said. "Study at the school. A better fate awaits you than to sing be-fore windows and catch pennies in a platter."

The girl was glad to obey. She worked harder than ever to improve. She kept the poor place neat; she cooked her adopted father's meals and made her own cheap garments neatly. Hope rose high within her, but, alas ! misfortune was at hand. The old man made very little, now that his young singer was not with him. One day the monkey was killed by a larger one, who threw it from the ropes where the two dangled together-ropes swung from pulley-lines fastened to the windows of the vinces 346,300 acres under flax, while in houses. Poor Pepa was thrown to the Austria there were in 1871, 253,730 acres under flax, producing 44,523 tons, pavement below, and his neck broken. Bread grew scarce, and the old man, In Hungary, the yield was 18,150 tons. lamed with rheumatism, could scarcely The average acreage appropriated to the growth of flax in France, is 160,550 carry his organ about ; and, at last, the hope that had inspired both perished in an hour. The kind musician died ; the free music lessons were over forever, and

A Congressman's Funeral. When a Congressman dies at Wash-ington while Congress is in session, it is customary to hold the funeral services

is customary to hold the funeral services at the capitol, as in the recent instances of the late Representatives Hartridge and Schleicher. To give our readers an idea of the manner in which this im-pressive ceremony is conducted, we append the following description of the scene connected with Mr. Schleicher's funeral:

uneral : The government in all its branches,

The government in an its branches, legislative, judicial and executive, met in the hall of the House at 12 o'clock. The House met and adjourned, and the Senate soon afterward receiving the formal message of the House, adjourned

too. The House met at 3 o'clock. The Speaker, with white sash over his shoul-der, fastened by a rosette of black and white, took his seat before thronged desks and filled seats, and gave a single rap with his gavel. The swinging doors were pushed open. A tall, white-headed man walked in, so often the head of this procession, and behind him, two and two, came the Senate, the sergeant-at-arms, French, leading, a rosette of black and white for some inscrutable reason on his shoulder. The door-keeper turn-ed. "Mr. Speaker," he shouted, as a man must to be heard one hunored feet: The Speaker arose. "The Senate of the United States," said Field, as the head of the procession passed abreast

head of the procession passed abreast of him. "The Senate of the United States,

"The Senate of the United States," said the Speaker, like an echo, and his hammer fell with a single sharp tap as the pansing procession moved on. "The House arose, and, through its st ranks, the Senate pa sed to Before those seats in ware the green chairs set for

were the green chairs set to right of the Speaker for the fe-diciary and the federal executive.

diciary and the federal executive. Buc-cessively there came the same simple announcement: "Mr. Speaker, the Supreme Court of the United States;" and "Mr. Speaker, the President of the United States;" and each time the gavel fell the House and Senate arcse; and

in overcoats, just from out doors, stepped to their seats.

in overcosts, just from out doors, step-ped to their seats. There was no announcement at the next approach. The doors were held back, and the doorkeeper advanced and turned and walked before the pall-bearers, with long white scarfs. Behind them men walked with a heavy burden, flower-covered, and behind them the dead man's delegation, the associates of his official life. The great andience rose. The coffin was slowly lowered. The mourners and the pall bearers sat in the scats left them. The gavel fell. The crowded ranks sat again, and the chaplain of the House, rising in the high marble desk, began : "I am the resur-rection and the life." Briefly the chaplain went from passage to passage of the simple service. There was an impressiveness in the bold absence of music, in the gavel and the mace behind him, the notebooks and pencils of the official reporters below. It was, never-theless, the Senate and House af Rep-resentatives in joint session assembled. It was all soon over. No word was said.

TIMELY TOPICS. The heretofore-regarded worthless sage barrens of Nevada are found to be excellent pasturage for Cashmere goats. A single herder, near Carson, has a flock of 3,000.

The proportion of soldiers who can read and write in the several armies of Europe is as follows: Germany, 965 in 1,000; Sweden, 930; England, 860; Hol-land, 750; Belgium, 700; France, 635; Portugal, 495; Spain, 490; Austria, 460; Italy, 450; Russia, 115; Turkey, 75.

An Iowa paper reports that William H. Jones, of Lincoln township, Ill., performed the feat of husking 128 bush-els and sixty-five pounds of corn in eleven hours and a quarter. The corn was husked, weighed and cribbed in the above-stated time. A Bock Island man claims to have husked 125 bushels in eleven hours and a holf, but it was

essed at.

Norfolk, Va., to hear the "Faculty-man" call out behind his specs: "Man-That-Looks-Around, Frank Yellow-Bird, Laughing Face, Man-That Hoots, One-Who-Comes-Flying, Lizzie Spider and Walking Cloud." The government will pay the institute \$167 apiece for one

During the year 1878 forty-eight perish ! Brican railroads, with a mileage of The phylloxera in France, a small in-During the year 1878 forty-eight erican railroads, with a mileage of miles and an invested capital of \$1,000, were sold or passed into is of receivers, the totals for its being 132 roads, 11,623 \$728,463,000 of capital. In that period one-seventh of the total mileage and anniderable moon they are

mileage and considerably more than one-seventh of the total capital investment have passed through the final stage of

Indiscriminate kissing does not gen-erally have the very best results, as some of America's sensational court records go to show. The physicians of the late Princess Alice have serious charges against kissing. They have in-vestigated the cause of the peculiar virulence of the diphtheria which at-tacked her family with such fatal results, and have agreed that the rapid spread of the infection was entirely due to im-prudent kissing. A child with a sore threat ought not to be permitted to kiss any of its companions, any of its companions.

The proceedings of the brigands in facedonia are such as to create in some Macedonia are such as to create in some districts a panic among the inhabitants. At Monastir the alarm, it is stated, has reached such a pitch even in the town itself that the shops are all closed, and hour before sunset. The number of out-laws and brigands, who are the terror of the country side, is estimated at not fewer than 1,000. They spread far and near over the district, and not a single place is free from their depredations. Whole villages have been brought to ruin by districts a panic among the inhabitants. At Monastir the alarm, it is stated, has

The national game-Turkey. Cassius M. Ciny Raises His Voice in Behalf of the Birds-What Keeps From Us the Pingues of Egypt.

Cassius M. Clay writes to the Rich-mond Register as follows : I was pain-ed to see in your journal lately an ac-count of the slaughtering of the crows,

CLAY ON CROWS.

Advacate,

in praces

without protest. Nature seems to have provided for the greatest sum of animal life. First vegetables, then insects, and then high-er animals, man standing at the apex.

er animals, man standing at the apex. All insectivorous birds are the allies of man; without birds the human race would have a hard struggle for exist-ence, and would perhaps be exterminat-ed. Over all the world the great breeders of famine—the locusts and crasshoppers are univers only where grasshoppers-are ruinous only where birds cannot exist.

The swarms of locusts, which the Bible tells infested Egypt, exist yet, and will exist until trees shall be planted or caused to grow in all places

guessed at. It will sound a bit funny when the forty-nine Dakotas take their seats in the chapel of Hampton institute, near Norfolk, Va., to hear the "Faculty-Norfolk, Va., to hear the the hear the thear the the hear the the hear the thear the the the hear wherever I saw a few trees and shrubs there were hawks hovering over to pounce down upon and destroy the birds. The prairie chickens are destroyed by man, and between those two allies the birds are lost and the locusts

spread ruin; every green thing is eaten, and men fly for life to other lands or

sect, has inflicted, by the ruin of the vine, more loss than the German war! In early years our State was full of woodpeckers and kindred birds. They ate some apples and that do the fruit; our fathers destroyed them. Then our veg-etables were fine and perfect; after the birds have been killed we are overrun

with insects; perfect fruit and vegeta-bles are now almost unknown. I believe that the quails or par-

tridges, though gramnivorous, also de-eye. The wren and sparrow are very active feeders near and upon the ground. When the peas are sown I have observ-ed the sparrows following the lines and picking up the pea bugs as they emerge from the ground. There are many birds which peck the rose bush and grape-vines. All the woodpecker and sap-sucker tribe eat bugs and not sap. For many years 1 have kept a box

villages have been brought to ruin by the crows. For long years I have ightning breast the number 44, being an exact ceased my early war upon the crows. They are eminently insectivorous. The copy of the same figures on a part of the ship's rigging. crow, when the weather is very cold,

price for the gathering of these eggs.

your paper of the destruction of the

crows struck me with the same sensibil-

of the county ! Should I arouse the State to pass efficient laws for the pro-

A Chinese Review.

A Chinese review has just been wit-

thrown a somersault, and retired,

ty as if one had boasted that he had

An unpleasant boy - A plumber's A useful boy - A congressman's Frank."

Hush-money - The money paid baby's nurse.

Items of Interest.

NO. 49.

Miners' wages are among the things that are made in vein.

More horses are lamed from bad shoe-ing than from all other causes together. In six years in Italy there have been 15,982 homicides and 14,563 arrests therefor.

The close of the day is too light a garment for this cold weather.-New York Star.

Gold is still found in quartz in Cali-fornia. All you need is to have some-body to pint it out.

The Chinese use orange flowers to scent their tes, also rose leaves, jas-mine, and the blossom of the sweet plum tree.

In the office of the department of the interior at Washington, there are nine-ty-six clocks, 657 spittoons and 511 washstands.

In this age of pedestrian fever the most fashionable performances would appear to be walking away with other people's money,

The residents of New York city con-tributed during the last fiscal year, to benevolent institutions in private gifts, over \$2,000,000.

The Esquimanx are afraid to die on a windy day, lest their souls should be blown away. They believe in the actual resurrection of the body.

A Milwaukee astronomer says the earth is lop-sided. This is doubtless because of the unusual size and weight of the Milwaukee man's ears.

> WESTERN EDITORIAL. We do not belong to our patrons; Our paper is wholly our own. Whoever may like it may take it. Who don't may just let it alone.

A bankrupt was condoled with the other day for his embarrassment. "Ob, I'm not embarrassed at all," said he; "it's my creditors that are embarrassed.

Corner loafers the New Orleans *Picayune* proposes to utilize by labeling them with the names of the streets they infest, for the convenience of strangers.

Skating is a very healthful exercise. It not only puts in play all the muscles of the legs and arms, but it creates lumps for future phrenologists to feel of and report on.

Au official return shows that the number of condemnations for crimes in Prussia was, in 1873, 11,692; in 1874,

tound on h

first, a file of men in silk gowns, rust-line somewhat, and then another of men

or possibly the elevated plains of central Asia, but though no doubt a native of warm climates, the fiber attains its greatest fineness and perfection in tem-perate regions; the seed being richer in the tropics. Flax is more extensively and more successfully cultivated in Belgium than in any other European country, particularly in East and West Flanders, in which the most beautiful flax in Europe is produced, being em-ployed for the manufacture of the famous Brussels lace, and sold for this purpose at \$500 to \$900 per ton. Impurpose at \$500 to \$900 per ton. Im-mense quantities of an inferior product are also raised and exported from Russia, especially from the countries bor-dering on the Baltic. The cultivation of flax was introduced into Ireland from

the low countries before the close of the the low countries before the close of the seventeenth century. Flax has been cultivated from time immemorial as a winter crop in India, but only for its seed, and not at all for its fiber. The estimated production of flax in Rassis in 1868, was 193,000 tons; in It was all soon over. No word was said. 1869, 300,000 tons. In Holland there were in 1869, 66,272 statute acres under Men stepped forward and raised the coffin. Behind it the guests of the Honse followed in the order they had flax, producing 13,921 tons; in 1870. 60,520 acres, producing 8,918 tons. In Belgium, there were at the latest official census, 142,612 acres under flax, entered-the President and the cabinet, the Supreme Court, and the Senate The House adjourned. The public producing 29,582 tons. In Prussia, in funeral was over. 1870, throughout the eight old pro-

eleven hours and a half, but it was

ear's instruction.

bankruptcy.

miserable

"If it had been the Lord's will that I should be buried in the sea," she sobbed. "I and my children." And she bent her head upon her hands; her eyes were blinded with tears; she saw

"Mother, look. The bad boy has car-ried off our bag."

The poor creature started to her feet. She stared wildly about her. A boy was running away at full speed with the bag of clothes on his back. Uttering a scream, she began to rnn at full speed. People stared at her, but did not know why she ran, or understand that the interpretation of her cry was "stop thief." The boy outran her very soon ; her breath failed her. She saw him turning a corner of the street, and regardless of the wagons, cars and carriages in her path, dashed across the road. There was a cry-a crash; a policeman strode out upon the crossing and stopped the vehicles, and the body of the Italian woman was lifted from the ground ; her black hair fell over her shoulders, her eyes were fixed, her face pallid, and the yellow kerchief about her head soaked in blood. No one knew anything about her. They carried her to the hospital ; thence to the morgue. Afterward she open window of a certain great hotel. was buried where they bury paupers.

When their mother ran after the thief the little girls sat where she had left them, for awhile; each was playing with something. To amuse them their mother had given them her earrings— two hoops of gold. They had their own little ears pierced,

but as yet there were only threads in them. Their father had promised that, when he made his fortune, they should have gold earrings like their mother's. But their father was buried in the sea, and their mother was poor. It did not seem likely they should ever have any of those nice things that they had been promised when they came to America. However, children are light hearted, and they were on land again and not stuffed into the steerage of the crowded ship; and they had no doubt that their mother would catch the boy with the bag. They played with the earrings and stared at the pedestrians and at the carriages, with no anxieties about their mother, until they grew hungry. Then the

youngest began to cry. "Mother stays a long while," said the eldest. "Let us go and look for her, and tell her we want supper." And away they went, hand in hand, each clutching her earring. The cldest was a handsome girl of

eight ; the youngest a little six-year-old beauty, wonderful to contemplate. They spoke only Italian, of course. As they wandered on looking for their mother, and growing more and more frightened at every step, there came marching up Broadway a military procession. Th buyles blared, the drums beat, the banners waved, a crowd of hangers on tramped over the sidewalk. Rough men and boys took no heed of the little girls, and they were at last separated. The eldest was helplessly pushed for-ward by the crowd ; the little one, who had clang to the railings of a restau-rant, was left behind.

"When the procession and the crowd had passed, she still sut there, weeping

they could never pay for instruction. One day Bianca found her father, as sunk as low as 12,929 tons (in 1871). she called him, actually ill, and their The acreage under flax in Ireland in humble means of subsistence at an end for the present.

"Forever," said Bianca to herself. flax, however, is not always an accurate "if I cannot earn his bread in his age, as guide to the produce, since in 1871, 156,883 acres produced only 13,612 tons of flax, while in 1872, 122 003 acres prohe has earned mine in my youth. Surely, even my little knowledge of music is of some avail."

home.

Come.

Sitting with her head upon her hands, she remembered the beautiful young 14,011 acres under flax in England eighty-four in Wales, and 1,262 in Scot prima donna who sang at the opera, and whose voice she had heard through the iand. In 1870 the United States pro-duced 13,567 tons of flax, of which quantity the State of Ohio alone raised "She is said to be charitable," she

8,940 tons. Thirty-two States produce flax in large or small quantities. said; "at least, she would tell a poor girl if it might be possible for her to earn her living by her voice; where to apply; what to do." And, full of that ardent trust in human nature which is He who is hasty fishes in an empty part of youth, she tied on her poor little

pond. hat, and made her way through the He who knows himself best esteems wretched streets in which she lived to imself least. the great thoroughfare in which stood Applause is the spur of noble minds the hotel which was the prima donna's he end and aim of weak ones.

Innate rudeness, in spite of restraint, "Can I see signora ?" she asked timidly of a servant who answered her will betray itself by awkwardness.

timid ring. "Well, it isn't likely, young woman," said the man; "she's just going out to ride. Does she know you?" The secret pleasure of a generou act is the great mind's great bribe. To give good accounts of your com

Words of Wisdom.

ride. Does she know you ?" "No," said the poor girl; "but"--"Oh-begging, or something, I sup-pose," said the man. "No, you can't." "Let me be the jndge," said a soft voice; and a beautiful lady clad in vel-vet swept toward her. "What have you to say to me?" she asked, kindly. petitors inspires the belief in your own prosperity. Experience teaches us indulgence the wisest man is he who doubts his own udgment with regard to the motives which actuate his fellow-men.

Our eyesight is the most exquisite of our senses, yet it does not serve us to discern wisdom; if it did, what a glow of love would she kindle within us. And Bianca was about to reply when she suddenly caught sight of something pendent from a chain which the lady wore that struck her dumb. It was an earring—a hoop of gold—the mate to that about poor Bianca's neck. She re-True love is eternal, infinite, and always like itself. It is equal and pure,

without violent demonstrations ; membered how her mother had given eeen with white hairs, and is always one to each of them to quiet them on that day when she sat desolate upon a young in the heart. Sin first is pleasing, then it grows easy, then delightful, then frequent, then habitual, then confirmed; then the foreign shore. Strange fancies filled her mind. Could this be Francesca? If it were, would she not despise the poor organ-grinder's adopted child ?— an ignorant girl, so shabby that the servants took her for a beggar. man is impenitent, then he is obstinate,

then he is resolved never to repent, and then he is rained. "Come along with me, my child," said the beautiful young lady. "At least you are of my country. I know it by your accent. We have that tie. A beggar knocked at the door, and unexpectedly, the head of the family opened it. "Young man," said the latter, "I came here twenty years ago with two shillings, and washed dishes for a living, and now look at me." And he threw his chest out and beamed. "Sir," replied the beggar, "can you direct me to anybody who has a lot of dishes to clean ?"

She led her to her sumptuons apart-

ment, and closed the door. "Now, let me know what you came for," she said, smiling. Bianca bent her head, trembling. "I came for something else," she

#### Hat Poisoning.

An "Old Hatter" writes to the New ark (N. J.) Advortiser : In your paper of the 29th ult., there was an article headed "How Hatters are Poisoned." statute acres, and about 15,000 acres are sown with flax in Egypt every year. The entire produce in Ireland has never exceeded 64,506 tons (1864), and it has The men are afflicted with a nervous shaking of the hands and arms, and sometimes of the head; and I have known instances where the teeth could be picked out with the fingers. In many cases they are unable to get a cup to their lips without help. The afflic-tion is called "The Shakes," and, as 1864, was 301,693; in 1868, 206,446, and n 1871, 156,883. The acreage under stated, is charged to the "carrot" used on the fur. It is made by saturating nitric scid with quicksilver, to one part of which an eighth of water is used to wet the fur on the skins, and when dry a uced 18,920 tons. In 1872 there were hot iron is passed over them, which gives the fur a yellow tinge called yellow carrot. This has been used ever since hat bodies have been made of fur, and until of late without any bad effects, and in some of the large factories the men are not troubled. I believe the workmen on fancy colors are exempt from them, although the same carrot

is used—only the ironing is omitted and is called white carrot. But I suspect the black color has much to do with the trouble. The salts of copper are all poison, and they abound in the dust from the hats; especially in badly-ven-tilated rooms, which are where the "shakes" are found to prevail in the winter and disappear as the weather will permit of free ventilation in the spring.

The writer has worked at the business many years in the largest factories, has made the carrot and used it without being in the least affected by it, and feels satisfied that some other cause must be at the, bottom of the trouble. The furs are now nearly all prepared in Europe, and some other chemicals may be used, but I think not. I find in Ure's Dictionary of the Arts the same formula. The use of carrot on the fur is to make its felt close and firm, which raw stock will not do. I would suggest to the doctor to see if arsenic may not be the cause. Examine the verdigrit used for it.

it i Nearly all the hats worn in the United States are made in Newark, Orange, Danbury, Norwalk and Brookline, amounting to many millions of dollars yearly, and employing thousands of men and women. New York being the great center of distribution for all the country.

There is a remarkable Jewish synagogue in the ancient city of Prague, with walls so thick with dirt as to be absolutely black. A local tradition says that somewhere on its walls the name Jehovah is inscribed, and it is believed

that if the walls are cleaned the name will be effaced.

The tumultuous ses of life swamps many men with its bill-owes.

their levies of ransom money, and they occasionally commit atrocious crimes.

#### Skating on Artificial Ice.

The whole interior of Gilmore's garden is to be floored. Besides the lumber 50,000 iset of iron pipe have been carried into the garden. These are to be grid-ironed across the whole floor and filled with a freezing mixture. Then the floor will be flooded and the whole surface transformed into a glassy sheet of ice

Mr. T. L. Bankin, who for many years has been making ice artificially at the South, has the enterprise in charge. The large steam engine, now in the building, will pump the freezing mix-ture from a tank 250 feet long, now building under the north gallery. The plan is to cover the wooden floor with a water proof material or tarpaulin which water proof material or tarpaulin which may be readily taken up. Upon this the pipes will be laid. Ice, pipes and tarpaulin may easily be removed at any time, leaving a ball-room floor soon dried by steam. Professor Gamgee's rink of artificial ice in London measured 14123 feet. The ice lake in Gilmore's will have a surface area of over 16,000 feet. The first cost will be large, but Mr. Rankin thinks the cost of maintenance will be little. The garden will be warmed as it is now, and so rapid is the congelation from the use of the freezing mixture, that one of the features of the exhibition will probably be the spraying or flooding of the surface each

evening and the freezing of the water in twenty minutes. The plan is to throw the garden open daily for all who will have done more for my country than all the politicians and warriors so justly made illustrious. may wish to skate, reserving seats for such as may wish to look on. Frank Swift has been engaged to attend daily and give lessons in skating, and he and others will give exhibitions of their skill. It is intended also to make a

'speeding track " nine feet wide on the present course, on which long-distance skaters may show their speed and en-durance. Before Mr. Vanderbilt would consent to this new enterprise he insisted upon a trial experiment. A tank thirty-two feet long was built, in which the pipes were placed. By forcing the freezing mixture through them with a hand - pump water was turned to dry ice inside of ten minutes, and when a fresh surface was asked for two bucketfuls of water thrown upon the ice became dry, hard ice in the same number of minutes. During the holiday week this pond was maintained, and so well satisfied was Mr. Vanderbilt with the test that arrangements were at once made with Mr. Rankin for the use of his

will remove a portion of the piping to Coney island and establish there a skating rink, while another section will do duty at Long Branch.-New York

looked very much pained, and groaned, "Oh! she turned out a deceiver." But he forgot to mention that he was the deceiver whom she had turned

"What's your occupation ?" asked a will eat the eyes of weak, prostrate lambs, other birds' eggs and young; visitor at the capitol in Washington of a bright boy whom he met in the corritake corn from the ground when it is first spronted, and follow and eat the soft, half-digested corn from fed cattle dor. The boy happened to be a page in the House, "I'm running for Con-gress," was the reply.

in the fields. But for all this they should never be killed. In many lands Jennie June says girls should bethe buzzard, as a scavenger, is protected by law. The crow is also a most active scavenger, but, as I said, is mostly insectivorous. I dissected young crows ing-house table, and saw her help herin the nest, and never found a seed or grain of corn. I found bugs, beetles aud, above all, caterpillars. This morn-ing, all over my bluegrass pasture, the grees Fahrenheit, and a thin crust of frozen earth and a fine snow existing, and two dishes of vanilla ice cream. They do help themselves,-Rockland there were thousands of crows feeding. Courier. They were eating grass and the eggs of grasshoppers. In France the government pays r

#### Dumas as a Duellist.

One night at the theater of S n Carlo, Here the crows do the work much more Naples, Dumas the elder (the celebrateffectively for nothing. I have in my life seen whole meadows stripped of blade and seed by grasshoppers. Who can say that the crows do not keep us from famine? The announcement by from famine? The announcement by

"I have greatly enjoyed your conver-sation, sir, and hope to see more of you. If ever you visit Paris call on me. I am Alexander Dumas."

iried up all the wells and all the springs "The deuce you are! So am I!" replied the novelist, with a roar of langhter. tection of crows and other birds, I

By the way, Dumas left Naples under peculiar circumstances,

One fine morning he printed an arti-cle in which he handled the Italian people in a manner more vigorous than courteous,

At eight o'clock the paper came out ; by ten Dumas received thirty challenges ; by noon, sixty. At one P. M. he called a meeting of the 120 friends of nessed and described by a correspondent of the Shanghae Courier. The men, clad in uniforms of red and blue, were

his challengers, and said unto them : "Gentlemen, I leave Naples to-night, and therefore have not time to fight all ranged in two ranks, every tenth man hulding a bright scarlet flag, while a sergeant in the middle gave the time to your principals singly. Nevertheless I am anxious to give them all the satisfacthe advance by waving a huge crimson standard. At the sound of a horn, which tion that is in my power, so as I have the choice of weapons I propose fight-ing with pistols; your sixty principals will be collected into a group, and on reresembled the humming of a gigantic bee, the battalion prepared to receive ceiving the word fire a volley at me and I'll blaze away into the crowd,'

The proposition was not accepted.

### "Pith and Point."

Why don't some venturous barber of the right stripe open a shop at the North pole?

How strange it is that a plain, blunt man usually makes very pointed remarks.

Ice cream will be cheap next summer backif the milkmen are willing and the cows liberal

If a race-horse hadn't free use of four feet, its owner would more than likely forfeit the stakes.

A mail-carrier's protest against his wife's scolding : "Oh, madam, letters have peace !" she stamped on him.

Oultivate modesty, morality and mus-taches. None are expensive, for fertilizers are required.-New

Why his engagement with Miss H. had been broken off, he rolled his eyes,

World.

# appliances. Mr. Rankin says the lake will be ready for use three days after the floor is laid. Next summer Mr. Rankin

## the big horn hummed once more, the

cavalry. Out popped a soldier brandish-ing a pike, which he poked at an imaginary assailant, then uttering a shriek like an owl, he flourished his shield, turned a somersault, and trip-pingly retired to the ranks. When everybody had popped ont, brandished and poked his pike, shrieked like an owl.

When Johnny was questioned as to

soldiers formed in square, and one of them danced gravely but energetically forward, throwing out his right leg with

a graceful jerk ; then bounding

ward he again dancel foaward, this

time throwing out his left. Then he jumped, he waltzed, and capered, he pranced, he turned head over heels, rolled himself well in the dust (which rolled himself well in the dust (which rose in clouds), stood on the back of his neck while he flourished his legs in the air, recovered himself, grasped! wildly with his arms at nothing in particular, made a grotesque courtesy to the vice-roy and retired. With this martial spectacle the review concluded.