SPURIOUS MONEY.

Curiosities of Counterfeiting at the Treasury Department.

Making Bills With Pen and Ink and "Sweating" Coins.

The most extraordinary counterfeits which have come under the attention of the Secret Service were recently captured in Indiana, writes Rene Bache in a Washington letter. They were executed by a lunatic confined in the Central Asylum at Indianapolis. Notice was attracted to his world by two of his notes, each for \$10. which were found in circulation and were well worn. Three others, which were still in his possession, were secured. They were executed without the knowledge of his official keepers, and he will not be permitted to turn out any more.

The notes, which are preserved a curiosities at the Treasury Department, are all them done with the pen and black and red ink. This man. however, is not the person who for many years past has been uttering the remarkable pen-and-ink bills which have puzzled the authorities so hopelessly. The latter is evidently not at all insane, unless it be on this special hobby, and his workmanship is in so superior a style of art that banks have accepted his productions as genuine. He makes only two year, and they turn up with surprising regularity from all parts of the country, no two of them being passed in the same city. The work cannot possibly pay, being a fad of some eccentric.

The general effect of the lunatic's notes is good, though the workmanship is crude. But the most remarkable point about them is that they do not pretend to imitate any particular bills, being a mixture of various designs on different varieties of the National currency, with some original additions out of the crazy brain of their author. For example, one of them is a hundred-dollar note, with the face of a Treasury note and the back of a National bank note.

The head of Washington, which adorns the face, is an absurd caricature. On the back, mstead of the usual engraving of the Signing of the Declaration of Independence, there is a group of figures representing Christ and His Apostles. Christ has a long spear in his hand. One of the Apostles wears a stovepipe hat and another has a dagger. Instead of the seal of the State at one end, there is a picture of a sow. The geometric lathe work is laboriously imitated with the pen.

A fifty-dollar note has likewise the face of a treasury note and the back of a national bank note. A portrait which may represent Jefferson is on the front. On the reverse, in place of the proper design representing the embarkation of the Pilgrims, is a scene that is evidently of a religious character, with saints, etc. These highly original pictures are in the very crudest style of art. They seem to have some allegorical meaning There is a similar vignette on the back of a ten-dollar note, taking the place of De Soto in his great act of discov. ering the Mississippi river. By some accident another ten-dollar bill, which is a silver certificate, has both sides fairly correct, though the inscriptions on it are in exceedingly bad English.

One of the most curious of modern methods of attacking the national currency is the "sweating" of coins. The process is both simple and profitable

attempt to remove over 75 cents in volue after this fashion from a double eagle. With smaller pieces the percentage taken away is proportionate. exercising discretion they insure safety. Gold pieces from which so small a fraction of their weight has been abstracted by sweating bear no altered aspect to the inexperienced eye. An expert perceives by the feel an unhealthy smoothness, the sharp lines made by the die being softened down. This is very different from the effect produced by the abrasion incidental to ordinary wear. But the quality which betrays sweated coins to the adept is just what is most likely to deceive most people. Naturally, their outer coat having been removed, they are brilliant when newly put in circulation. They are as bright as if fresh from the mint. This very peculiarity excites the distrust of persons who are acquainted with such matters. A good many of them reach the Treasury here, to be immediately stamped with the word "Light" and

rejected. But coins which have been sweated are mostly issued and circulated in parts of the country far away from Washington and from the sub-treasuries. This is purposely done in order that they may escape detection. On the whole, considering how simple the process is, it is rather surprising that this kind of fraud is not more widely pursued. So long as it is done discreetly there is comparatively little chance of detection.

The Palace of a British Millionaire. The rebuilding of Mount Stuart, Lord Bute's palace near Rothesay, Scotland, makes it the most magnificent mansion in Great Britain. The base of the building covers a fraction more than an acre, and it is built in the mediaval Gothic style of the thirteenth century. The walls, turrets and balconies are built of the beautiful variegated granite and sandstones from Kirkcudbrightshire, the floors and arches being of clouded Italian marbles. The main hall is constructed entirely of alabaster, the supports being columns of oxidized brass and bronze. The gallery and grand staircase are of marbles brought from Sicily and Carrara.

The drawing rooms are panelled with alternate strips of cherry, walnut and ebony, all from America. The main dining room, which was built so as to accommodate 280 guests, is finished after the style of the drawing rooms, with the exception of relief figures and mosaics of fish, game, animals, etc. The ceilings and chimney pieces of all these rooms are most artistic, and so also are the windows, mantels and doors, the work of which is extremely elaborate.

There are three immense libraries and a billiard roon, all with carved stone fireplaces of antique design. In one wing there are Turkish and swinning baths, large conservatories, aviaries and aquariums.

The whole palace is heated throughout with steam and hot water pipes and lighted both by gas and electricity. The pictures in the galleries alone are worth over \$100,000 and the books in the libraries as much more. The building, decorating and furnishing of this palace, which is without doubt the finest private residence on the globe, entailed an outlay of over \$5,000,000.—[London Sun.

Did You Ever See a "Full Moon?" I know what your answer will be without waiting for it. It is this: "Yes, once every month since I have been old enough to pay attention to position that you are badly mistaken, and that in all probability you have never in your life beheld the full face of our "silvery sister world." By way of solution let us see what it takes to constitute a "full moon" in the exact sense of the term : A full moon occurs only when our obsequious attendant is 180 degrees of longitude from the sun, Old Sol and the earth being on the ecliptic. But the moon's orbit is inclined to the ecliptic at an angle of 5 deg. 8 min. 47 sec., and is therefore never on the ecliptic except when at its "nodes" or crossings. This being the case, what we call the circular disk of the moon (full moon) lacks considerable of being an exact circle, being what astronomers term "in a state of gibbosity," and is never a pertect disk except when "a full moon" happens exactly at the time when Luna 1s crossing the ecliptic, at which time she must necessarily be centrally eclipsed. One of our best present day astronomers, in concluding an article of much merit on the same subject, says: "We therefore conclude that real full moon, one having a perfect circle, has rarely if ever, been seen." Again I repeat: "Did you

QUAINT AND CURIOUS.

In Arkansas there is a thirteen-year-The heart of a Greenland whale is a yard in diameter.

old girl who makes the weighing machine tremble at 306 pounds. Tragedy was first represented on a

wagon by Thespis, at Athene, B. C. 535. It is said the city of Pittsburg,

Penn., now stands on ground once given in exchange for a violin. Rebecca Allen, of Chester, Vt.,

eighty-four years old, has just completed a bed quilt containing nearly go 4,000 pieces.

It is said to be possible to cut a growing tree and make it into paper ready for the printing presses within twenty-four hours.

An ingenious Boston man has just patented an electrical device designed to automatically play banjo, mandolins, guitars and harps.

There is no truth whatever in the belief that any one falling into the sea necessarily rises and sinks three times before drowning.

About 5000 words in the English language have no rhyme to them. These include such important words as honor, virtue, gulf, month, and echo.

The young ladies of White Pine, Nev., amuse themselves in winter by coasting down the mountain sides in rocking-chairs. Their escorts carry the chairs back to the starting point.

The accepted method of pronouncing Hawaii is as if it was spelled Hahwi-e, accenting the second syllable and pronouncing the i as in the word pine. The correct native pronunciation, however. is said to be Hah-vah-e-e.

There are now hving within a radius of ten miles of Ashland, Me., eight American women who are the mothers of 102 children, eighty of whom are living in the enjoyment of good health and sound minds.

Andre Gaertner, founder of the Mechanical Museum at Dresden, Germany, who was born in 1654, is said to be the inventor of the elevator. In 1717, having become infirm, he made a machine which enabled him to go up and down the three stories of his house.

There is a point near the famous stony cave in the Catskill Mountains, New York, where ice may be found on any day in the year. This locality is locally known as the Notch, and is walled in on all sides by steep mountains, some are which are more than 8000 feet high.

The largest heathen temple in the world is in Seringapatam, and it comprises a square, each side being one mile in length, inside of which are six other squares. The walls are 25 feet high and 5 feet thick, and the hall where pilgrims congregate is supported by a thousand pillars, each cut from a single block of stone.

A School for Rogues.

In Paris there still exist schools of crime such as that conducted by Fagin, and the dummy figure with bells from the pockets of which the young pupils have to stea! purses and handkerchiefs without making a noise of ringing are still in use.

A young pickpocket who aroused suspicion because he was spending money very freely, and who was found to have only recently stolen a purse containing \$12 from a lady in an omnibus, has been interviewed on the subject in the prison of La Petite Becautto

PEARLS OF THOUGHT,

Small books are read the most.

Praise never has to be coaxed to sing. Don't try to carry all your religion in your head.

It is as wicked not to do right as it is to do wrong.

Purity in prison pays better dividends than sin in a palace. He would be strong in mind must

have facts for his diet. The best way to teach children to be

good is to show them how. It takes a fool a life time to find out

what others see at a glance. No army is ever made weaker by

putting the cowards out of it. It is hard to feel at home with peo-

ple who never make mistakes. The man who is faithfully improv-

ing his one talent will soon have ten. There is no investment that pays any better dividends than doing good. Good men are hated because their

lives tells sinners that they are wrong. The man who is ruled by his feelings will always travel in a zig-zag

course. The man who wants to keep his sins until tomorrow may have to keep

them forever. The children of a millionaire never

have much chance to get acquainted with their father. It is better to go to bed hungry once in a while than to get up every morning head over heels in debt.— [Ram's Horn.

The Proper Diet For Children.

After school is over our child comes home, and as dinner is generally the next thing upon the programme, we are naturally introduced to the subject of food for children. And here, among so many wise mothers, it is probably a work of supererogation to even hint that simplicity and regularity are the golden rules for dietetics of children, and that because we know man to be an omnivore, and therefore liable to enjoy fish, flesh, and fowl in their season, it does not necessarily follow that we should serve every known preparation of these viands to our little ones. Nor yet that because wheat flour is an excellent article of diet for the child, for the sake of its gluten and starch and sugar, and because he may eat fresh raspberries in their season, is it a necessary corollary that a combination of the two in the form of a raspberry tart will be equally nutritious and digestible.

The Spencerian doctrine that the tastes of a child should form the basis for his diet hardly seems to us practical, so long as children are not always born in what we call a state of nature, but bring along with them into this world certain hereditary teadencies which we make more terrible by calling diatheses, and which an intelligent system of dietetics can go some distance, at all events, to correct.

Why a child who is of a nervou temperament is benefited by a diet which contains considerable fat we do not exactly understand, nor does the presence of fat in the brain seem to be sufficient answer, but clinically we have found this to be true. So, also, should we remember that fatty foods, with a generous nitrogenou admixture, are especially desirable for children who have the tuberculous tendency, and that all influences which wor good digestion and a o to fa petite should be especially evoked for them; while in the dietary of our rheumatic charge we should remember to guard against too great admission of sweet or starchy articles, and not forget the favorable influence that judicious exercise has apon this disorder.-[Harper's Bazar.

CHILDREN'S COLUMN.

When the flowers hear a call, "Darlings, you must go to sleep," Off they drop their pretty gowns, Softly into bed they creep. Do you know what keeps them warm Through the cold and wind and storm?

Just as mamma tucks you in When she kisses you good night, So the flowers are nestled down 'Neath a blanket, snowy white. But first a coveriet is spread Over every sleepy head—

A pretty coverlet of brown, With leafy patterns fanciful, And over that the blanket fine,

And over that the blanket fine, Spun of cloud-land's softest wool. Under these the sleeping flowers

Under these the sleeping flowers Dream away the winter hours. -[Anna M. Pratt, in Youth's Companion.

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A PRINCE ON A BICYCLE. Last May, while out riding his favorite pony, Abdul, the little Crown Prince of Germany was thrown from his horse and badly shaken up. No bones were broken, but the little fellow was so badly scared that he refused again to mount the fiery Abdul. So the little Arabian pony was led away to the stables, and for many months he was exercised by one of grooms. The little Crown Prince, although an excellent horseman, would not try to ride again for many a long day. The memory of Abdul's side jump and the terrific fall that followed were too recent to be forgotten. And what do you think was bought for the little Prince when he would not ride horseback? Why, a bicycle, to be sure. And the little fellow has grown to like bicycling very much.-[New York Advertiser.

SANDY, THE DOG OF THE CRIMEA. One of the most celebrated dogs that ever lived was Sandy, a dog that went through the Crimean war and was decorated by the government for his valuable services. Sandy was the property of a young French lieutenant. His mother was a savage English bulldog and his father was a very intelligent Scotch terrier. And Sandy combined all of the best qualities of both his parents, Before he was 7 years old he had been in a great many battles, and was specially useful in obtaining food from other camps and in guarding his master's tent from the natives. Once, in the thickest of the battle, he darted forward to his master's rescue and received a terrible bayonet wound that caused him to go on three legs for a long time and from which he never fully recovered. Saudy greatly distinguished himself on two or three occasions by rushing into the most fearful seas and rescuing

men from capsized vessels. Sandy lived to a ripe old age, and, although times of peace were restored long before his death, he never forgot his army training, and to the last he would drag himself out, crippled and old, to march proudly at the head of his regiment on holiday occasions.— [St. Louis Star-Sayings.

PLAYING WITH ICICLES.

It is cold in the land of the Esonimaux--very cold, colder than you who live in the temperate zone can imagine. It is never warm there and never what we would call "pleasant." The sun, when it shines at all, shines feebly, and the snow and ice never The people try to keep warm. melt. That is all. But as for taking walks for pleasure or indulging in outdoor sports, they never do such things at all on account of the cold. Although wrapped up like little mummies, for the first few years of their lives, the Esquiman children are playful little beings and love toys as dearly as do the children of any other country. And what do you suppose they play with-these far away, half frozen babies? They play with icicles, for these are the only playthings they can find. With their stout, stubby little little hands they make necklaces out of icicles and fasten the prettiest of them to wires to make earrings of. Their games are played with small snowballs or ice-balls, which are frozen so hard that they can be handled quite a while indoors before they will-melt. Perhaps the Esquimau children have a game with ice marbles, and who knows but their little toy wagons may be hollowed out of blocks of ice?-[New York Commercial Advertiser. A Snake in a Rag of Potatoos A man purchased a bag of potatoe at the Cape Town, (South Africa) market, and when the potatoes were turned out at his home he discovered that a puff adder was included in the bargain. That viper must have been callous, indeed, to have expended no vernom during its transit, and it is to be hoped that the potatous were well examined after being in such compauy. The colonists are wonderfuly expert in dealing with such quarry.

SCIENTIFIC SCRAPS.

Scientists affirm that ice frozen at zero temperature is most durable.

Astronomers claim that the temperature of the planet Neptune reaches 900 degrees below zero.

The temper of fine-edge tools is said to be utterly spoiled if exposed to the sunlight for any considerable length of time, either in summer or winter.

A French astronomer is of the opinion that the red glow on the planet Mars is caused by orimson vegotation. He thinks that the grass and foliage there are red and not green, as they are on earth.

Twenty-five butterflies are in the collection recently given to the California Academy of Sciences by Doctor H. H. Behr. He had been forty-eight years gathering them, and in the collection are specimens from all sections of the world.

J. M. Ashley, Jr., Vice President of the Toledo, Ann Harbor and North Michigan Railroad, is the originator of the idea of building three big ferry boats for that road, so constructed that they may be converted into warships in twenty-four hours. Two of the boats have already been completed.

An improved electric snow-sweeper is constructed to move along a track at any desired rate of speed, and at the same time, with an independent set of motors, drive a set of rotary steel brushes with any amount of power and without being dependent in any manner on the motion of the sweeper along the track.

Doctor Lafar, one of the most distinguished German bacteriologists of the day, discovers that butter is full of bacilli, their numbers being many when the outside of a pat is examined, but fewer when a sample is taken from the inside. In a gramme of butter from the outside of a lump yoa have 47,250,000 microbes.

One of Prof. Bell's latest inventions is the "waterphone," for locating leaks in waterpipes. It is said to have been suggested to him by observing a plumber's apprentice endeavoring to trace a leakage by the primitive method of holding one end of a small steel rod in his month and tapping on the pipe with the other end of it.

A new horsesnoe recently patented has for its special object the obtaining of a better foothold, and the lessening of concussion or jarring effect upon the animal's feet. The shoe is made with apertures extending through it, located between the positions usually occupied by the nails. The openings are of dovetailed form, and the usual nail holes are provided in the intervening solid metal portions of the shoe. Projecting through the aperturs are elastic rubber studs.

What a Maverick Is,

Some years ago a man named Maverick located near Austin, Texas, and went into the stock business. He had considerable money and established a large ranch, mostly of cattle. He was what might be termed a progressive man, but his ideas of progress were not suitable to his surroundings. For instance, he concluded, that branding cattle was uscless-in fact, barbarous -and he determined that the red-hot iron should never again be pressed gainst the side of au animal belonging to him. He kept his word, but he didn't keep his cattle. This was a regular picnic for the cowboys of that locality, who of all things could never be accused of being at all scrupulous on questions of honor, especially when was a steer involved in th Well, the cowboys picked up Maverick's cattle wherever they could find them, and it was not long before every hoof of them was gone and he was reduced to almost poverty. Ever since that every unbranded head of cattle over six months of age has been called a maverick and is regarded by the cowboy as the property of him who first finds it and sticks his brand on it.-[Louisville Commercial.

though it requires some expertness. An electric battery is employed in connection with a small tank filled with a solution of cyanide of potash. The operation to be performed is merely that of electro-plating by the deposition of metal. A copper wire, connected with the battery, is so arranged that its two ends are immersed in the solution.

To the end which is the positive pole is attached a small lump of platinum or zinc, while to the other extremity or negative pole is fastened a \$20 gold piece, for example. The current being turned on, the chemical solution absorbs gold from the coin, and after it has taken up as much of the precious metal as it can hold the surplus of the latter begins to deposit itself upon the lump of zinc. This process may be continued until all of the gold in the coin has vanished, transferring itself to the zinc.

However, this is not the object contemplated by the swindlers. Their purpose is merely to take from the coin a portion of its material so small as to make no easily perceptible difference. Accordingly, after allowing the operation to proceed for a short time with one piece of money, they substitute another. Rarely do they

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This precious young rascal described how his father had carefully taught him to pick ladies' pockets, "I only pick ladies' pockets," he said. "That is easier than picking men's. With gentlemen it is much more difficult to do the trick without their feeling your hand on them." His "papa" and he, he said, used to travel together in the omnibuses from the Palais Royal to the Bastile.

That was not so good a "pitch," he explained as the omnibuses from the Madelaine to the Bastile, but chese latter were already worked by "old Mother G.," who, it seems, claimed, and successfully asserted, exclusive privileges with regard to the portable property of passengers on that route. The interviewer, after leaving the had, found himself minus a handkerchief and a halfpenny, which he had purposely left in his tail pocket as an experiment to see whether he could be rèlieved of them without his knowledge.—[New York Journal.

Why He Never Called Again. Walter Ego—You mustn't believe everything you hear about me. Gladys Gone—Of course not. I never hear anything about you, except what you tell me.—[Puck. A Violinist's Hair.

Why is it that violinists always wear their front hair so abominably long? It is most diverting to the audience and keeps one constantly wondering why the violinist does not have it cut, or even wear a round comb if necessary—anything but to have it danging down in his eyes in that distracting way. He comes out to bow his thanks for

applause, and there it is; he pushes it back and bows again, but he can't see the audience because this lock of hair is exactly over his eyes—or one eye, at any rate. He retires to the dressing room, and before he is called out again the audience fervently pray he will have arranged that way ward lock, but no, there it is. His right hand is constantly busy in brushing it back, but as well might he try to brush back the waves of the see. It is obdurate. —[New York Herald. An Earthly Crown After Death.

A French princess is said to have been crowned after death. This was Inez de Castro, who was murdered in the Fourteenth Century by three assassins. The lady was the wife a Portuguese crown prince, and she was mu, dered by order of the king-her father-in-law. The prince never spoke to his father again, and when the old man died the remains of Inez were lifted from the grave, placed on a magnificent throne, and crowned Queen of Portugal. The clergy, the nobility and the people did homase to the corpse, and kissed the boues of her hands. There sat the dead queen, her yellow hair hanging like a veil round her ghastly form. One fleshless hand held the scepter, the symbol of royalty .- [Chicago Herald.