

The world of the West has failed to appreciate the button. Its utility is undoubted, and as an advertising medium it has proven useful, but except in isolated ceses it has not been accorded the same importance as in China, where it is one of the chief decorations. The mandarins all wear on their caps as insignia c<sup>\*</sup> rank, each of the nine classes possessing a distinctive model, ranging in value ac-cording to its wearer's rank. Red coral heads the list, then a sapphire blue button; a peculiar opaque purple stone follows. The fourth, a light blue button, is awarded military field officers; crystal buttons designate a subaltern; then come the jadestone button, an embossed gold button, a brass one, and, lastly, a thin silver one. The first is reserved for members of the imparial family the second for dis inserial family, the second for dis-tinguished foreigners. One instance only is known where the coral was bestowed upon a foreigner. This hap-pened in the case of an Englishman, Sir Robert Hart, Inspector-General of Maritime Customs. Maritime Customs.

#### The Unicorn.

The Unicorn is an enemy to the Lion, wherefore, as soon as a Lion seeth a Unicorn, he runneth to a tree for suc-cour, that so when the Unicorn in the Swiftness of his course runneth against the tree, wherein his sharp horn sticketh fast, then when the Lion seeth the Unicorn fastened by the horn, without all danger, he falleth upon him, and killeth him. These things are reported by the King of Ethiopia in a Hebrew Epistle unto the Bishop of Rome.—From "Topsell's will be a cold day when his fuel gives History of Four-footed Beasts." 1658. out."—Indianapolis Press.

The Mexican Boundary. The boundary line between the Uni-ted States and Mexico has recently ted States and Mexico has recently been resurveyed and marked by stone monuments in the form of obelisks lo-cated about five miles apart. The shafts are ten feet high, four feet square at the base, and two feet at the top, built on foundations five feet square and rising six inches above the surface of the ground. In some places only boulders could be obtained, when only boulders could be obtained, when these were covered with Portland ce-ment plaster and the proper inscription plates being placed on them. Some iron obelisks were also used, these being about six feet high and twelve inches square. The completion of this work gives some interesting data in regard to the accuracy of long-distance surveying. The boundary line was first surveyed and marked in 1848 and 1853, and most of the stones then erected have been destroyed, the dis-tance between authentic marks often being as much as 100 miles. In resurveying a distance of about 1000 miles but three errors were discovered, two being of about 300 feet and the other

### The Economy of Electricity in Mining.

about ninety feet.

In the first place, its great conveni-ence must be noted. An electric lamp can be placed and used where no other lamp can, and practically any candle power that may be required can be had from it. An electric motor to do certain work is much lighter and handier than any other form of motor, and the cables which feed it with energy are lighter, handler, more easily got into position, and more easily main-tained than the pipes required for either steam or compressed air. The electric signal and the electric tele phone will do what no other apparatus will. .ill these are sources of economy in themselves, and the busier the mine the greater the economies ef-But apart from these con fected. siderations, the electric motor and the electric system of transmitting power is far more efficient than any other system.—The Engineering Magazine.

The Lawyer's Defense. My client admits having struck his wife; in fact, having beaten her. But, gentleman, should we not praise this aged man for having retained the fire of his youth, despite the chilling blasts of matrimonial experience, rather than chide him for his action."—Fliegende Blaetter.

#### The Book Women Don't Want.

No woman ever has any use for a book where the girl accepts the man she is in love with before she has put him to a lot of trouble.-New York



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most congested quarters of New York City there are no greater desperadoes nor worse scenes of degradation than may be met on the "iron highways" of the United States NE of the greatest sources of | A for the greatest sources of annoyance and perplexity to every railroad superintendent 'the "hobo." The members of this easy-going gentry have selected the road cf steel as a natural successor

the road cr steel as a natural successor for their purposes to the "king's high-way" of a century and a half ago. It is stated on good authority that the various rallway lines of the country spend each year more than a million dollars in attempts to keep their lines free from tramps. free from tramps. It is easy to understand, says the

New York Herald, why the "hobo" prefers the railways to the highways. In the first place, they offer the most direct routes between towns, and, in spite of beliefs to the contrary, the genuine "hobo" prefers not to stray any further than is necessary from these centres of population. It is easier to count ties than to pick one's way through the uncertainties of country dirt roads. The railroad is never muddy in wet weather nor very dusty in the dry season. Moreover, there is clways the alluring possibility of stealing a ride on the trucks, the "blind baggage" or within the friendly

shelter of some box car. W..ile the railway is a great boon to the members of the genus hobo, it can-not be said that the reverse is true. In fact, so great a dislike do the rail-way officials show to the free and in-discriminate use of their property that they spend thousands of dollars in em-ploying men to drive the tramps off trains and away from the line.

A single line of railway-one of thu more important companies-spends upward of \$40,000 every year in fighting tramps, and it is probable that most of the through lines pay out not less than \$25,000 apiece in attempts to keep their lines clear of these unwelcome travelers

If these men are driven off one train they catch onto the next that comes along. If they are sent to the peniten-tiary they serve their terms and return to the ro.d. No amount of beating or imprisonment serves to discourage them, and the problem of dealing with them is a source of continual perplex-ity to railway officials.

The use of the railways by the inveterate hoboes menaces not alone the



READING SIGNS ON BOX CARS.

property of the companies themselves but also the peace and security of the sections through which they pass, which is practically the same as say-ing of the whole country. On this point the opinion of an expert is available, and is interesting as showing how the present lax system of policing the rall-way lines tends to keep filled the ranks of the vagrant and criminal classes. Mr. Josiah Flynt, who has spent many years among tramps studying their ways and habits, says:

"All the great railways are spending thousands of dollars on their 'detective' forces, as they call them, and they are all overrun by mobs of ne'er do wells and criminals. There are no worse slums in the country than are to be found on the railroads. Reformers and social agit ters are accustomed



scattered along the track. The two men would jump off the train as soon as it slackened its speed sufficiently to allow them to do so, rejoin the 'push,' and help in distributing the plunder among the 'fences' in neighboring cities." The method generally adopted by

the railway companies in ridding their lines of tramps, and the one which is being followed by the Central road at the present time is that of scaring the great number of hoboes away from the United States. A number of rail-roads are recognized by vagrants and criminals as the stamping ground of the line by making examples of a few of their number. The Central employs on its Hudson River division four detectives who are empowered to make arrests in any county of the State through which the line extends.

particular gangs that are generally found on the lines with which their names are connected. These men are the general officers of the detective force, and in the per-formance of their duty they are able to call upon other railway employes who hold local commissions in the va-"Take the Lake Shore and Michigan Southern Railroad, for example. For several years a mob of cutthroats and 'hold up' men, called the 'Lake Shore Push,' were operating on that property. The hangman's noose and long rious towns along the line. Since the



to the penitentiary have weakened the gang and removed its terrors, but originally it was a strong riminal combination.

"The men had no leader or organization in the strict sense of the word, but they were bound together, as well as criminals and thugs can be, by the determination to keep the Lake Shore Railroad, from the outcasts' point of view, in their own hands, and there have been times when it was all a man's life was worth to be caught by the gang on a freight train. They had made up their mind that a syndicate of ruffians was as appropriate and like ly to succeed as any other kind of syn-dicate, and for several years they lev-ied toll, in the shape of money or anything else of value that they could get, on all strange wanderers found on the property which they had picked out as their territory. If a man whom they located beating his way on a freight car refused to pay toll they pummelled him until he acquiesced in their demands, and then, if they hap-pened to be drunk, they were as likely as not to throw him off the train. Only a few of the original gang are alive or free to-day, but it still be hooves a man beating his way on the Lake Shore to be on the lookout for men of their stamp.

"Besides holding up tramps they also robbed freight cars, and I doubt whether any other gang in the country ever brought to such perfection this kind of thieving. The robbery gener-ally took place at night when the train was going round a curve. Two of the gang would board the train before the curve was reached, carrying with them a rope ladder which could be fastened to the running board on the top of the car to be robbed. One of the men saw to it that the ladder did not slip, and the other climbed down to the side door of the car, broke the seal, opened the door, and threw out on the

order was issued to use more stringent efforts in getting rid of the tramps these detectives and their local assistants have been exceedingly busy. Be-ginning at the southern end of the di-vision they have worked their way to-

ward Albany, riding on freight trains, going through the yards in the differ-ent towns and raiding the hoboes' camps along the railroad property with the aid of the least holes force in the the aid of the local police force in the different places. Half a hundred tramps have been arrested and sent to jail, and a number of their established



METHOD OF ROBBING A BOX CAR. camping spots along the line have

been broken up. The problem of dealing with this nuisance is a less serious one for the Eastern roads than it is for those of the West. In the first place, in this part of the country the tramps are distributed over a great many lines. In the second place, towns are closer together, and it is always possible to turn the hoboes over to local magis-trates to be dealt with. In the West, however, where the towns are further apart, the question of what to do with the hobo after he is caught is often a grave and difficult one, and some of the Western roads have adopted the policy of permitting the tramps to ride undisturbed on their freight trains so long as they do not interfere with the oad property or steal the cars. The tramps themselves are well aware as to which lines have adopted this policy, and they are to be found in great numbers along all these roads. well-known fact among their fraternity that the railways will not fraternity that the railways will not put them off trains in passing over the Rocky Mountains or across the Southern desert. The lines in these sections have suffered so much from fires started by tramps that had been put off trains that they prefer to carry them as free freight rather than to have miles of their property de stroyed. One of the easiest "lays," in in tramps' parlance, to be found in the country is that extending from Texas to Southern California, or from Denver to Salt Lake City, so far as beat-It is estimated on good authority that there are no less than 100,000 pro-fessional hoboes in the United States. These men travel from end to end of the country over the railroad lines, of the companies or upon the property of the companies or upon the people who live along the roads. The cost of to hundreds of thousands of dollars to hundreds of thousands of dollars every year, but thus far no way has been fourd to successfully suppress them.

#### FISHING WITH BIRDS. Chinaman Uses Cormorants to Catch

His Finny Prey. In this country the fisherman is a man who uses hook or line or the net in following his profession, and folks ould stare with wonder to see him start off with a flock of birds to help



HOW THE CHINAMAN FISHES

in catching fish. Yet this is done in China There the Chinaman may be seen in his sampan surrounded by cormorants which have been trained to dash into the water at his order, seize the fish and bring them to the boat. Should a cormorant capture a fish too large for it to carry alone one of its companions will go to it sassistance, and together they will bring it in.

If the Chinaman wishes to catch tur-tles he will do so with the aid of a sucking fish or remora. This fish has on top of its head a long disc or sucker by which it attaches itself beneath moving objects such as sharks, whales and the bottoms of ships rather than make the effort necessary to independent movement.

The fisherman fastens the remora to a long cord tied to a brass ring about its tail, and when he reaches the turtle ground puts it overboard, taking care to keep it from the bottom of the boat. When a turtle passes near the to the latest on the line, bring the turtle up to the best end the line, bring the turtle up to the boat and take him aboard.

#### Rapid Growth of Beard.

Three brothers, bearing a remarkable resemblance to one another, were in the habit of patronizing the same barber shop. One day one of the borbers entered the shop early in the morning and was duly shaved by a German who had been at work in the establishment for one or two days. About twelve o'clock another brother came in and underwent a similar oper-ation. In the evening the third brother made his appearance, when the Ger-man dropped his razor in astonishment

"Mine gootness, dat man has the fastest growing beard I ever saw. I shaves him dis mornin' anoder shaves him at dinner times, and he gomes back now mit his beard so long as it never was."—Chicago Journal.

### Atchison People Noted For Honesty.

An Atchison (Kan.) man points with pride to the honesty of inhabitants of city as exemplified in the fact that a woman left a well-filled pocketbook on a chair in front of a hotel there and found it safe and unrifled on re-turning several hours later. A jealous contemporary in a rival town comments on this circumstance as follows: 'As a rule people pass along the streets of the place oftener than this. It really isn't so bad as the story would indicate.

#### Pretty Home Made Screen.

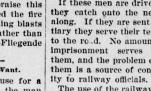
In a picturesque camp cottage in the woods the dining room is separated from the living room by a really lovely screen. One panel is illustrated herewith to show how easily such a screen may be constructed. The framework is an ordinary clothes horse. A width of green Japanese matting is nailed on the lower half on either side, with the selvage edge top and bottom; half inch rope, which has been painted green and cut in the right lengths,





Press.

It Will. "The man with money to burn," said





Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Hallows, of Peckham St., Globe Village, Fall River, Mass., have cause to thank Dr. Greene's Nervura for restoring to health, and probably preserving the life of their little son. Almost from infancy Everett Hallows was troubled with indigestion and nervous troubles, and nothing seemed to help him. Finally Dr. Greene's Nervura was recommended and tried with success. A few bottles were sufficient to effect a cure, and today the little one is enjoying the best of health. By the use of Dr. Greene's Nervura the sickly child was transformed into a happy, hearty, robust boy.

## Dr. Greene's for the Nervura

**Blood and** Nerves

Thousands of other children can thank Dr. Greene and his wonderful remedy for the strength and health they enjoy. Children to whom it is given have less sickness, better health, better growth, and longer and more vigorous lives. Parents should realize that it is their duty to give it to every child who is not in perfect health. There are no diseases more dreaded by parents than fits, epilepsy, and St. Vitus' dance. Yet no child would be troubled by them if Dr. Greene's Nervura were given when the first symptoms appear.

# Oharies L. MoBay, a highly esteemed pollos officer, who resides at 14 Myrtle St., New Bed?ord, Mass., says:

"About two years ago my little daughter became run down in health and suffered from St. Vitus' dance. Soon after she was prostrated by rheumatism, which severely affected her low limbs. "After trying various remedies without obtaining relief, she began taking Dr. Greene's Nervura blood and nerve remedy, and experienced immediate benefit. She continued its use, and after taking five bottles her rheumatism was practically cured. Her appetite returnsd, her pains disappeared, she was again able to walk without hamenes, her general health was restored, and she was able to attend school and to play like other children."

Mron." Dr. Greene's Nervura, blood and nerve remedy, is the prescription and covery of the well-known Dr. Greene, of 35 West 14th Street, New York y, who is the most successful specialist in curing all forms of nervous a chronic complaints, and he can be consulted in any case, free of charge, meaning or by letter.



to speak of the congested districts of the large cities as the slums to which attention should be directed, but in the picked up later by the rest of the gang

EASILY CONSTRUCTED SCREEN.

forms the trellis, and a larger size, also forms the trellis, and a larger size, also painted green, the finish. This is eas-ily nailed to the wood by means of long wire nails. Several greef soda water bottles with round bottoms are hung at intervals along the edge, which finishes the top of the matting on the dining room side. They are filled with water and kept filled with the trailing vines of the neighborhood, of which there is a great profusion. These are trained in among the rope trellis, and give, as may readily be seen, a most charming effect.—New York Tribune.