## THE DITCH.

## But soon the violets learned to grow, As in the haunts it used to know; The soothing mint crept up its banks, And flags and rushes waved their ranks. mer digged a ditch to drain t that long in swamp had lain; ided it as he had planned, ndings through his pasture land. Inntere land.

rst, unused to wander here, found the pathway plain and drear; wished that it might backward roam To seek the marshy ways of he

ere, and drear; elward roam i home: -Cora A, Matson-Dolson, in the National Magazino.

Serge walked by his side, secretly

They came, talking volubly of mar-

ests, being friends of long standing,

were met by the Count himself, a

haggard man, with a strong, forbid-

ding face and deep eyes which no

man had ever fathomed. The arrival

of the spent horses in the stable-yard

had already apprised him of the un-

expected guest, whom he was ready

to welcome, though he only knew

him by repute. But hospitality was

one of the traditions of the Castle of

Konski, and besides, the Englishman

"This is Arthur Beaulieu, father.'

said Serge. "He has ridden at peril

of his life to us. I will leave him to

He disappeared in search of his sis-

ter, and the old Count turned in-

quiringly to his guest, whose errand

was quickly told. The old man lis-

tened, leaning slightly on the veran-

da door; and but for an added grav-

"The times are troubled, but we

are remote here in the Castle of

Konski, and there has been no sur-

veillance since the children came

the storm. I tell you what will hap-

pen in Russia in the next week will

am an honorable man, Count Konski,

and I am able to give my wife the

comfort she needs and should have.'

A strange, shuddering sigh came

up from the depths of the old man's

"Count, it was but a lull before

bore a noble name.

explain his errand-

from Warsaw."



The fine snow was drifting across | I will save. Take me to your the steppe before the first wind of father-

winter. It began to come very softly and silently at daybreak, and quickly glorying. Oh, this was a man worthy powdered the landscape, covering up the name-one to whom no task was all ugliness, making unsightly places impossible. even beautiful; but all the same it ters, concerning their mutual interwas cruel.

It struck the knell of the long silence: Sergius Konski, sometime stu- to the door of the house, where they dent of Warsaw, and now supposed to be living peaceably on his father's lands at Erlensk on the Siberlan frontier, stood still at the gateway of one of his father's fields and looked up the long bleak vista of the road which led away from Erlensk and towards Poland and life. Such was the thought in the lad's heart, for from his mother's side he was a Pole; and every heart-beat was in sympathy with his mother's people.

One brief year had he spent in Warsaw; twelve short months into which had been crowded the fierce experience of a lifetime; then suddenly and swiftly, he and his sister, who had been attending university classes at the same time, had been removed from Warsaw. They had not dared to ask a question; they know too well the reason, though the matter had never been mentioned in ity he did not seem disturbed. the great house of Konski. The lines had simply deepened in the face of old Konski, and he had become more taciturn than ever.

'You have had your chance and made a fool of yourself, Serge, besides dragging Vera into danger. You can stay at home now and make a fool of yourself to some purpose."

be a world's wonder, and he who warned me did not lie. I took pains That was nine months ago. The to verify his warning. And I am pair were not content-how could here. Unless you give Vera to me they be? Can the eagle, who has to-morrow, and let me take her away. been accustomed to soar from height she will be taken less gently, and to to height, to contemplate the inaca harder prison than an Englishcersible only as a spur to further achievement, sit down contentedly to man's house."

"She has no mother," said the old preen his feathers in the homely man from behind the thickness of love-cot, however sheltered and safe? The thing is impossible. These two his beard. "I am afraid." "Of what? Not of me, I hope. young, eager hearts, whom the love

of freedom had consecrated, who had beheld great wrongs and burned to redress them, were fretting their hearts out now, and it was the beginning of the long silence.

heart, and he covered his eyes for a Serge was expecting no one; he moment with his hand. was simply contemplating the road "Hark! they are coming. Vera which led to life, and wondering how shall decide," said the old man. long before the cords would become They came from within the house, so strong that they would draw him the brother and sister together, and away from every tie that bound him the Englishman's heart leaped as he He had the thin. to the steppes. saw the light in the girl's eyes. She eager face of the enthusiast, the was a radiant creature, with the blue dreamer of dreams. He wore a loose blouse of frieze, cut low at the throat eyes and the gold hair of her Polish mother, and such grace of figure as and revealing the strenuous muscles there; his eyes seemed to burn, to be no rude garments could hide."

She gave her hand to Arthur, and full of deep thoughts. It was a singularly handsome, a winning, arrest- he raised it to his lips. "He has co ing face. But it was not the face of ne Englis take you away, Vera," said the old the man who could suffer the long man, with a strange guttural note in stlence. "It seems you have but his voice. Suddenly a remote sound smote the two alternatives--- to go with him upon his ear; and through the film fish. or walt till they take you to the forof the flying snow he beheld in the tress of St. Peter and St. Paul." far vista of the road an approaching Her face scarcely blanched, but her vehicle. He drew himself up, an steadfast eye was fixed on the Engalertness seemed to spring to every lishman's face. muscle; he stepped out into the mid-"If Arthur says so, it is true, fadle of the road. He was not aware ther, but it is you who will decide. of any expected arrival, yet none the I am your only girl, and here I stay." less was he conscious of a sudden "Butbegan Arthur, until flutter of anticipation. Anything her hand on his lips stopped him. thrown overboard for want of a marmight happen any day; that was the He pressed it passionately. The old ket. The fish at that time were all only thing which made endurance man surveyed them with a mournful possible. The vehicle, drawn by a pathos, perceiving that the child's pair of swift but now jaded horses. heart had gone into the Englishman's approached swiftly, until Serge could keeping, and that it mattered little discern it held two persons. They how he should decide. were so wrapped up, however, so 'May God deal with you as you little of their faces visible, that no deal with her," he said, and holding recognition was possible until they his hands a moment towards them as came within a few hundred vards. if in blessing, he passed within the Then he gave a little cry and held house. up his hand. The plunging horses wore instantly stopped, and some of At daybreak, when there was a luff the travelers alighted. in the steady storm, the carriage "Drive on to the stables. Ivan, stood ready in the courtyard. The Yes, the stables of Ccunt Konski. Englishman came out first, not wish-How are you, Serge?" ing to intrude upon the last fare-The face of the youth in the frieze wells. blouse was suffused with a light sion' "Is all right, Ivan?" he asked the which touched like a live coal the squat-faced driver, whom he had warm heart of the Englishman. They bound to his service by many kindshook hands in silence. Not until nesses. The man nodded, and bent the horses had disappeared did a furto tighten the girths as they came ther word pass between them. from the house. He smiled to himi-"What brings you here, Arthur?" self, observing that to outward seemasked Serge in a low voice. "That is ing there was no girl. Vera wore a a matter of urgency I can see." suit of her brother's, and a long coat The Englishman wiped the powder and a small cap with flaps tied about of the snow from his keen, cleanher ears. shaven face. She was very pale, and there was "It is a matter of life or death, anguish in her eyes. But hope Serge. I left St. Petersburg on Mon- seemed to return to them as they fell On Sunday the Terror began, upon the Englishman's steadfast day. and when I left the soldiers were in face. Serge was behind, on his eager the streets shooting down the de- face a strange luminous uplifted look. fenceless citizens " The old man did not come until Vera "But there is more, Arthur. Youwas strapped in her place and Beau-

# OCEAN CAUGHT FRESH FISH

DEVELOPMENT OF THE TRADE ... WONDERFULLY INTERESTING INDUSTRY ... ONE HUNDRED MILLION FOUNDS A YEAR LANDED IN BOSTON .-- By N. D. FREEMAN, OF BOSTON.

-2000

Those who see the products of the | damaged by the obstructions. She sea only when placed before them has been going about four months, in the form of food little realize what At first she did not meet with very the production of it by the hardy good success, but later has made fishermen who go out upon our fish- good trips, and those interested in ing banks at this season of the year the venture are very much encourmeans. What dangers they face and aged. Should this be demonstrated what risks they take to furnish for to be the more economical way of | tion to the appropriation made by our enjoyment the fish which please producing fish it means an entire our palate and add so much to our revolution in our manner of fishing, food supplies. The supply of ocean- and in time our markets will be supcaught fresh fish has been of con- plied with fish caught by steam fishtinuous but slow growth, until now ermen instead of sailing vessels, it has reached the enormous amount This, however, may be a long way of one hundred million pounds a year off, as it means large capital, a firstlanded in Boston alone direct from class steam trawler and equipment the fishing boats, to which may be costing about five times as much as added forty million pounds more a first-class sailing vessel and equiplanded at other points along the New ment. The fishermen have also England coast and transported by changed during the sixty years. At railroads and steamboats to Boston that time ninety-five out of every to be distributed all over the United hundred were American-born, At States and the Dominion of Canada. their children grew up they aspired This does not include the halibut to something higher in life than to raught in southeastern Alaska by he a mere fisherman. As the demand Boston-owned steamers constructed for fish increased the skippers were expressly for fishing in those waters obliged to look elsewhere than among and transported by rall from Pacific Americans for their crews. The Irish ports by express trains landing the and men from the Provinces came fish in Boston in periodi condition in first. The same evolution took place ten days from the time they were with them as with the Americans. caught and often in less time, of Their children aspired to something which there were landed here about higher. Then came the Portuguese, ten million pounds, also one million with nearly the same result. And it pounds of fresh salmon from the looks now as if in the future perhaps rivers of Washington, Oregon and not far distant they might be manned California. Our fishing boats and largely by Italians. They are just manner of fishing have changed very starting out in small, open boats, and much during the growth and develop- the natural course of events will ment of this business, which dates back about sixty years, when the boats. The captains of our vessels carry them eventually to the larger business of bringing fresh fish to the deserve a word, for upon them de-Boston market first began. At that pends very much the success of this time there were only a few small industry. They are men well qualiboats, carrying four or five men fied for the business, with unqueswhich carried on their fishing in Mas- tioned courage and excellent judgsachusetts and Barnstable bays, fishment, and are drivers in their busiing during the day and coming to ness in the fullest meaning of the market during the night to be here word. They are weather wise to an in the early morning with their catch, extent which almost beats the weathdisposing of what they could, which er bureau, and while oftentimes was often a small portion of their their actions to a novice would apcatch, and taking those for which pear to be reckless, rarely make misthere was no sale outside of Boston takes. This little incident, which the light and tossing them overboard, writer knows to be a fact, illustrates and catching some more to go back this trait in their character. One to market with. At that time the morning on Georges bank, when the market was purely a local one, and weather looked rather threatening the fish were distributed from handand the barometer indicated foul carts and pedlers' wagons in their weather, one of our most enterprisimmediate vicinity. It is no exaging captains gave the order to throw geration to say more fresh fish are out the dories and set the trawls. often landed now in Boston in one One of his crew, being a little timid day than were landed then in a whole and not liking the looks of the year, and it is a query often asked, weather, went aft and said to the skipwhere do they all go? There is hardper he was not feeling well and could ly a railroad train leaves this city not go out to fish, to which the skipbut what part of its capacity is filled per made this reply, "G'wan, git inter with fresh fish. The facilities for ye dory, this is no harspittle." The distributing them has kept pace with fellow knew there was nothing to de the production and demand, and they but "git inder the dory," with the are carried into every town and city result that they had a good day's of this country east of the Mississippi catch and made a profitable trip, River and north of the Potomac and while some other boats whose cap-Ohio, some being distributed to still tains were not so good judges of the greater distances, but the territory weather lost the day's fishing altomentioned is the principal territory gether. There is no prettier sight to over which they are distributed. be seen anywhere than a fleet of fish-With the custom of packing them in ermen racing to market, for they ice the business very much increased. know the first one arriving is sure When this innovation was first sugof getting the best prices for their gested the fishermen held up their catch, and with plenty of wind, if hands in holy horror. What, pack salls and spars stand, there is not our fish in ice !! Fresh water ice! It will spoil the fish. They will not be much time wasted in sleep while making the passage to market, which fit to eat. Whoever heard of such a they often reach so covered with ice ridiculous thing as trying to keep salt water fish with fresh-water ice? But that when the halliards are cast off the sails remain up until they have some of the more progressive skipbeaten off the ice from the ropes so pers thought the experiment worth they will pass through the blocks. now to palter with men who work trying, and of course in a short time proved the fallacy of the theory that It is a life full of danger, risk and- under compulsion and perform as excitement, but there is a fascination little actual service for the stipulated fresh-water ice would spoil salt-water about it that, after a man once starts This also improved the conditions for distributing the fish. The in in earnest, it seems as if he cangonian dealers found that fish packed in ice not be contented in any other busiwould keep in good condition for ness. No braver or better men live, and they earn every cent they receive several days, and consequently could and if at times prices seem to be high be transported farther. Fish marfor what they produce, just rememkets sprang up all over New Engber what it means to catch and bring land, and the demand caught up with their goods to us for our enjoyment. the supply, and no more fish were -Boston Grocer. carried out past Boston light and

# STORING COAL UNDER WATER

### Captain Beehler Reports Advantages of Using Submerging Cisterns.

In a report to the Bureau of Equipment of the Navy, Washington, D. C., and also in a paper printed in the proceedings of the Naval Institute, Captain W. H. Beehler, commandant of the naval station at Key West. Fin., urges the advisability, if not necessity, of storing coal for the use of the service in concrete tanks capable of being filled with salt or sea water. He particularly calls atten-Congress for new storage sheds at Key West, and asks that these be constructed in accordance with his ideas.

After relating his experience with fires in coal piles at his station, which he attributes to the fact that the coal is in heaps from twenty-five to thirtyfive feet high, and that the conse quent pressure generates heat, setting fire to the escaping gases, he gives the following as the advantages of a watertight concrete coal shed:

"The submerged storage of coal will hermetically seal the games in that coal. Small pockets of combustion cannot be formed with the coal under water. The gases cannot be formed with the coal under water. The pressure upon the particles of coal at different depths will not bo so great. The pressure at the bottom will not develop heat, because the pressure in a reservoir of water fifty feet deep does not generate any heat at the bottom of that reservoir by the weight of the superincumbent mass of water. Fires in coal stored under water are impossible. "The of fighting fires during the

last ten months at Key West would more than defray the cost of converting that shed into a concrete watertight distern as proposed. "Coal so stored will be delivered

damp, and there will be no loss of coal dust carried away by the wind.

"In fighting fires at present, streams o, salt water are poured in upon the fires, and this salt water has a very deleterious effect upon the steel framework of the shed, which would not be the case when no fires are

The suggestions made by Captain Beehler are being considered at the Navy Department, and it is said that it is possible experiments will be made to demonstrate the truth of his

One of the marvels of a busy season, with its demand for labor in day on the grass of the park blocks

The call to labor is resounding throughout the land. No able-bodied man is now idle except from choice: the wages offered everywhere and in every vocation are living wages, with something to spare for

park idler wants. He would even scorn "employment" unless it came to him with the "soft-snap" guarantee. And it may be as well to say, though the statement may shatter the languid hopes of the soft-snap man, that this guarantee does not accompany the demand for labor that is heard on every hand. Employers were never more willing than now to concede the truth of the assertion, "The laborer is worthy of his hire,

# SALTED WHALE.

# -South America Cries For It.

of whale meat is becoming a big industry in parts of the Gulf of St. Lawrence. For some time past the fishermen of Gaspe have been in the habit of salting down portions of the meat of the whale for their own use when short of other food, but now it is found that the article is eagerly consumed by some of the South American peoples and consequently it is becoming quite an article of commerce. One company has established a

large plant on an island in the region known as Seven Islands, in the north of the Gulf of St. Lawrence, and maintains a regular whaling steamer to kill and tow in the whales to the factory. Two species of whales are taken, the humped back and the sulphur bottom. They are so plentiful that there is no difficulty in killing and towing to the factory one a day, which is all that the present capacity of the factory can accommodate.

Each whale is valued at about \$2000. so that the business is a very lucrative one. Formerly all the flesh went into

guano, which is worth \$30 to \$35 a ton. Now, however, the prime meat is all salted down for food, and excellent eating it makes, too, for those who like it, many contending that it is superior to the coarser grades of beef salted in barrels, especially when used in stews and hashes, or served up as corned beef.

China is said to offer an excellent market for the meat, but at present the initial company in the St. Lawrence, which is likely to be soon followed by several others, has a demand for all that it can ship to South America.

# WORDS OF WISDOM.

Blue sermons often come out of a brown study.

The worst part of any trouble is waiting for it.

The radius of a man's life will depend on its centre. Many a life that is short in years

Is long in its reach. Only the smile that is rooted bears

- fruits of refreshing. Habitual brooders hatch out only
- the buzzards of despair. No man ever broke his own back
- with his brother's burden. You lose force with men as soon

as you lose faith in them. Every great talent has come out of

many a furnace-like trial. No man ever succeeded in preach-

ing truth by acting a lie. When riches get into the heart they

are sure to make it poor. The world is not lighted by burn-

ing the candle at both ends. Losses are gains in so far as they

rid us of fair weather friends. A man's judgment of others is often an indictment of himself.

Some make no progress in the way because they are forever asking why. The honors you confer on the unworthy only sink them in deeper disgrace.

The saddest thing about the night of sin is that men think it is broad daylight.

When the church begins to brag of Its furniture if often goes broke on its faith .- Ram's Horn.

Stanings Luaint urious

The Vienna Abendpost claims for Slegfried Markhus, of Vienna, the honor of having invented the motor car.

In 1857 the Duke of Parma had his photograph upon his visiting cards. Hence the term "cartes-devisite."

Marmalade, then made only of quinces, was known in Henry VIII.'s reign. The word is derived from 'mermelo," a quince.

The original greenroom seem to have been painted green in order to relieve the eyes of actors dazzied by the glare of the footlights.

The most costly tomb in existence is that which was erected to the memory of Mahomet. The diamonds and rubles are valued at £2,000,000.

In the States of Arkansas, Indiana, Kansas, Michigan, Missouri, Nebraska, Texas, Oregon and Wisconsin an allen may vote upon complying with the State laws, after having made his preliminary declaration to become a citizen of the United States. Under possible exigencies of American politics, the election of a President and Vice-President and the determination of the policies of the Government might be determined by the votes of aliens. In all the other States no person is allowed to vote who is not a citizen of the United States.

An old Bible, bought by a French army officer in a second-hand bookshop at Mont de Marsan contained long lost treasure. The officer, turning over the book in his quarters, was astonished to find in it coupons and scrip to the value of more than \$2000. These bore the name of the holder, at St. Pierre du Mont, and the address of a notary of the same place. On communicating with the notary the officer learned that the holder of the scrip, a small peasant owner, had died some years ago, and that the property represented by the lost papers had not been disturbed. Great was the surprise when the officer handed over the scrip.

"Bribery" is a word with a curious history. In the old Geneva Bible it is said of the scribes and Pharisees that they "make clean the outer side of the cup and of the platter, but within they are full of bribery." The authorized version has "extortion," and there is no doubt that by "bribery" the Geneva Bible meant robbery. "Bribery" probably meant originally a morsel, a broken-off piece, but it occurs first in old French, signifying a piece of bread given to a beggar. Hence the Italian "birba." vagrancy, and the old French "bribur," a beggar or greedy devourer. "Bribe" developed in two directions -- In the senses of robbery and of a present. When Falstaff speaks of "a bribed buck," he means not one that had been corrupted, but one that had been stolen.

generated."

theory.

## The Soft-Snap Man.

every line, is the number of men who stretch their listless length day after in this city or doze on the park benches over the sporting columns of the daily papers.

the rainy day.

It is not work, however, that the wage as is possible .- Portland Ore-

Some Say It is Better Than Poor Beef The preservation and exportation



would not ride so many hundred lieu stood ready to step in. miles to tell us that."

"There is more. You know Oreaky? ter Palace. He told me privately on be safe, please God, in England."-Sunday evening that you and Vera British Weekly. are on the list. You must look after yourself. I have come to take her away."

"I question if she will go," said Serge, and his face began to burn question is being discussed in the slowly, as if the fire within consumed Tailor and Cutter by several correhim

"She is my promised wife, and i will take her." said the Englishman, and he set his face as he epoke, and looked as if he meant his words. "The man who was in St. Petersburg on Red Sunday will not stop at any half measures. For look you, Serge, it is no puny rising of a handful against the powers of hell; the great-est forces the world has ever seen pitted against one apother, and no one can foresse the end. But Vers "She is my promised wife, and I this theory:

"We shall meet, Count, in happier circumstances when the Terror is He is high in favor at the Win- over. Meanwhile your treasure will

# Buttons and Women's Clothes.

"Why does a woman button her garments on the left side?" The

spondents, one of whom advances "For ladies to have Timidity and Talent.

caught by hand line, as it is called, A great deal of talent is lost to the the boats being anchored and the world for the want of a little courfishermen fishing with one or two age. Every day sends to their graves lines to a man. Soon after the gena number of obscure men who have eral use of ice in packing, the de- only remained obscure because their man so increased the hand-line style timidity has prevented them from of fishing found itself unable to sup- making a first effort and who, if ply the demand. they could have been induced to be-

About this time the trawl came ingin, would in all probability have to use, being used by some Irish fish- gone great lengths in the career of ermen who had used them on the fame. The fact is that to do any-Irish coast. They were roundly thing in this world worth doing we cursed by the hand liners, who must not stand shivering on the thought the business was doomed, brink and thinking of the cold and but they soon found if they were danger, but jump in and scramble brink and thinking of the cold and going "to keep up with the procesthrough as well as we can. It will they must adopt the trawl, and not do to be perpetually calculating as the fleet of boats was increasing risks and adjusting nice chances. It they must look out for other fishing did very well before the flood, when grounds, as the waters of Massachu- a man could consult his friends upon setts and Barnstable bays did not an intended scheme for a hundred afford grounds enough for the fleet and fifty years and then live to see to fish over, and they began to go its success for six or seven centuries farther out and have continued to er- afterward. But at present a man tend the area of their fishing grounds | waits and doubts and hesitates and until at the present time the entire consults his brother and his uncle coast of New England and Nova and his first cousins and particular Scotia are covered by our fishing friends till one fine day he finds boats in pursuit of their business of that he is sixty-five years of age; catching fresh fish for the Boston that he has lost so much time in con market. sulting first cousins and particulat

friends that he has no time left to There has been the same advance and perhaps even greater in the size follow their advice .- Sydney Smith, and style of vessels used in fishing on "Courage In the Use of Talent."

as along other lines of business. The crack American fishing vessel has at all times stood next only to the crack

The discoveries of the potentialities American yacht, than which there of coal tar have allowed of the proare no safer or faster sailing vessels duction of the beautiful alizarine and afloat. From the fifteen or twenty aniline dyes of to-day, and it has tonner with its four or five men of made them far cheaper than the old sixty years ago, to the hundred and fifty ton fishing vessel of to-day, with pigments. It is characteristic that, while an Englishman made the disits twenty-two men. is indeed a long covery on which a great part of modreach, and they have been developed ern chemical industry is based, none during that time to the finest specimens of marine architecture affoat, of his countrymen could be induced The present season has seen another to take advantage of it. It was too theoretic for the self-styled practical innovation in the way of catching man of business, who preferred his fish. The steam otter trawler, which old method of the vat and the tub; as yet is only an experiment in this and the prophet of coal tar, being country, although used almost en-tirely in supplying the English marwithout honor in his own country, had to find a refuge among Germans, who were not so blind to a new inven-tion.-London Globe. They have proved an unqualikot. fied success on their fishing grounds

and there seems to be no reason why they should not be here if our grounds are adapted to that kind of fishing. This requires a smooth Dresden has just opened a bathing establishment for dogs. It is owned nottom, as otherwise the trawl is and governed by the municipality.

## Huge Ranches of Mexico.

Ranches in Mexico are of no mean size. Ex-Governor Terrazas, of Chihuahua, has 17,000,000 acres. The Zuloaga family is said to hold 5,000,-000. Properties of 1,000,000 and 2,-000,000 acres are not uncommon Among the Americans who have large ranches may be mentioned Fleming & Ross, the Riverside Cattle Company, with 2,000,000 acres and a fine herd of Herefords; Phobe Hearst, of California, who has a magnificent place west of Minaca: the Millers and the three Mormon colonies. Gordon, Ironsides & Ferriss, a Canadian company, have 1,000,000 acres; Lord Beresford, a relative of the Admiral. has a large ranch where he raises fine horses; another Englishman named Irmstead owns a large property. Smaller places of from 40,000 acres upward are numerous. The price of land now runs from fifty to seventyfive cents gold per acre, with a strong tendency to rise .- From Modern

#### As Seen From a Balloon.

Mexico.

Sense of danger you have of course none, for you are so aghast at the dangers run by your dear ones below from motors and bicycles and trains and gas-works, and all the other things terestrial, that all concern for your own safety goes. And the shocking air they breathe and the horrid little worm-like trains that burrow in and out of dark-looking holes. How unhealthy the whole earthly existence seems to you as you glide motionless through the air, with white clouds below you stretched out as a sort of silver carpet at your feet, and above you nothing but a limitless expanse of deep blue sky.---From the Bystander.

## He Got a Prompt Answer.

A certain well known London lawexcelled in cross-examination. His gift of humor often served him where other methods were unsuccessful. For instance, a young woman in the witness box was asked her age. She hesitated to reply. "Don't hesitate," said the lawyer.

"The longer you hesitate the older you are.

And the witness took the hint .---Pearson's Weekly,

### English Praise of Baseball.

In many ways baseball is a game particularly suitable for the youth of England. To excel at it requires many of those qualities which are particularly lacking in British sport generally.-Fry's Magazine, London.

Big Profits in Fancy Apples. Stories are coming East of the

large profits made by fruit grovers in eastern Washington State. In the Wenatchee valley the prosperous condition of orcharding has increased land values to as high as \$250 per acre for the raw land with water rights. Orchards in full bearing range all the way from \$700 to The boom is the \$1000 per acre. result of a very favorable season, when good apples have been selling at \$2 a box at shipping stations. One or two unfavorable seasons might change the situation. The region is described as more like a great orchard village than an ordinary farming section, the farms being small and the houses close together, with telephones, electric lights and other improvements common. The orchard work is carried on in a very thorouch manner, with the land kept thoroughly cultivated and cleaned. The trees have a long growing season and apples fruit at five years from setting. The apples produced here are of very fine appearance and have a peculiar waxy skin, which finds favor with the buyers. The actual flavor is not equal to the best apples produced in the East, but the Washington apples are carefully graded and packed and sell close to

the top of the market prices.

### Hot Blood of Youth.

"There were a couple of old fortyniners down in Tombstone, Arizona." said a tourist the other day, "who were great friends. One of them was eighty years old and the other eightyone. They were taking their morn ing toddy one day and fell into a disagreement over the date of some pioneer occurrence. Each was insistent on his own recollection of it and finally they got into a regular quarrel. Backing away from the bar they drew their guns and blazed away at each other, but their sight was so dim and their hands so unsteady that all the bullets went wide When their guns were emptied the barkeep emerged from beneath the counter and made them shake hands and make up. The local paper, The Epitaph, in describing the occur rence, treated it in an indulgent vein and closed by saying: "Well, boys will be boys." -- Duluth News-Trihune.

## Preserving Churches.

The difficulty in respect of church conservation is held in two contra-dictory lights, and is required for two incompatible purposes. To the incumbent the church is a workshop or laboratory; to the antiquary it is a relic. To the parish it is a utility; to the outsider it is a luxury. How can these incompatibles be united ?-Fistates Gazotte

CHOCOLATE MAN'S COSTLY TOY.

Has Bad Luck With Pulp Making. Fox Farming and Lobster Canning.

M. Menier, the chocolate king, of Anticosti, is finding his island kingdom in the St. Lawrence Gulf rather an expensive plaything. He contemplated establishing large pulp mills in the best wooded districts of the south shore, but in the last two weeks forest fires have swept through these districts, leaving only smoking tree trunks and shrivelled up soil in their wake, . The full extent of the damage from these fires is not yet known, but it is certainly very large.

M. Menier had a large tract enclosed for the rearing of the more valuable and rare species of foxes, but the best of the stock have escaped from their keepers.

A large revenue was expected from the lobster canning industry initiated on the island under M. Menier's administration, but this year the industry has proved a failure because of the scarcity of the lobsters, the catch being less than half what it was last year, and the total output of the cannary on Anticosti for the season was only 1400 cases of four dozen pound cans each.

M. Menier is wealthy enough to stand the heavy loss which the possession and maintenance of the island involves every year, for there are the Governor of the island and all his staff and official administration to be provided for; but all expected sources of revenue seem to have fallen off and though there is good hunting and fishing on Anticosti M. Menler is unable to visit his island every year, and it is reported here that he is rapidly losing interest in it and may dispose of it or desert it.

Others before M. Menier have endeavored to make a paying proposition of the island, but their efforts have always resulted in failure.

Aztee Women.

The fominine direct descendants of the famous Aztees are tiny creatures, exquisitely formed and refined in feature. The carry the head with the upbearing grace of the full-blooded Indian; their skins are not red, but clear, smooth copper color that shines like gold in the sun; their hair is coarse and black as ebony, and they are decorated, with bright feathers and gay ornaments. These women make the most wonderful ottery that comes to us from Mexico, for they have kept the old Aztee forms and decorations in their and they also weave wonderful bas-kets and do exquisite embroidery.-Scott Valley (Cal.) Advance.

An official return just issued by the Japanese Government sives t wealth of Japan at the end of 19 ns \$6,510,408,000, or \$145 per bond

Potentialities of Coal Tar.