

THE WISDOM OF THE SPARROWS.

"Twas a city sparrow, wise and debonaire,
Idly loafing through the country with
his mate,
Stupid country birds were building every-
where,
For the nesting-time was growing very
late;
But the sparrow, with his lady
In a tree-top, cool and shady,
Gazed with scorn upon the work and
tittered: "Stuff!"
To his mate he chirruped shrilly:
"Isn't all this labor silly,
When a roosting-place at night is quite
enough?"
"Twas a motherly old robin, near at
hand,
Who was busy at her building with
the rest,
And she turned upon the sparrows to de-
mand
How they meant to hatch their eggs
without a nest.
"Such impertinence," half sadly
Said the sparrow, "and yet gladly
I'll impart to you the knowledge that
you beg."
Then, with haughty condescension,
He remarked: "I need but mention
That it's possible to obviate the egg."
"Twas a congress of the birds of every
sort,
All indignantly assembled to protest
Their displeasure, when the robin made
report
Of the threatened abolition of the nest:
And they spoke of it as "awful,"
"Selfish," "scandalous," "unlawful,"
And they prophesied "the country's
speedy fall."
But the sparrows, quite disdainful
All this ignorant complaining,
Simply went their way, unmindful of it
all.
"Twas a sage old owl—a very solemn
bird—
Sat and listened while his feathered
fellows fought.
Never once he opened his mouth to say a
word,
But he did a lot of thinking—and he
thought:
"So the sparrows think it best
To abolish eggs and nest."
Well, perhaps the wisdom isn't theirs at
all.
But a plan of good Dame Nature's
To eliminate such creatures,
Let them have their way. The loss is
mighty small."
—T. A. Daly, in the Philadelphia Record.

When Dennis Went to Glasgow.

A REAL IRISH STORY.

BY THOS. M'EWEN.

"Twas the terrible bad luck I'd been
havin' for some time, wid no work to
be had at all at all, whin I got a
letter from me Sister Bridget, who is
after bein' housemaid in a gran'
house in Glasgow.

Whin I gets to Glasgow I had some
tay in a coffee house on the quay, an'
thin I wint straight to Park circus, to
the foine house where Bridget is
housemaid.

Whin I rings the bell a wee gossoon
about the height av two scrubbers, an'
dressed in blue clothes wid brass but-
ons on thim, opens the dure.

Sez he to me as quick as loightnin',
"We've nothing for you today."

"Arrah now, haven't ye, me illigant
spalpeen?" sez I. "An' who's your
tailor now, if I might ax the ques-
tion? 'Tis the gran' advertisement
ye'll be for him intirely. Are ye
after sleepin' in thim clothes wid
the brass sovereigns on thim? They
fit ye loike a glove, me son?"

"You impertent fellow!" sez the
crathur; "if you don't move on I'll
call a policeman!"

I couldn't help laughin' at him, so
I couldn't.

"Pollsman!" sez I; "faix that's the
very kind av gintleman I'd be deligh-
ted to see. If all that me sister
Bridget writes home in her letters is
thru, 'tis the pillsmen are her best
friends in this dirty ould Glasgow."

"Hush!" says the bit crathur,
loike a flash. "Are you Bridget Flannigan's
brother?"

I steps inside an' he shuts the
dure an' takes me through a gran'
passage wid chairs an' tables in it.

Bridget was sittin' at a table beside
the fire, havin' her breakfast.

"Och, 'tis delighnted I am to see
ye, Dennis, me dear!" says she. Thin
she puts on the fryin' pan.

I was just at me fourth egg whin I
hears a bell ring behind me. At that
Bridget gets off her chair.

Bridget goes away, an' I was just
makin' meself at home with me
breakfast whin into the kitchen
comes the purtiest wee colleen I ever
seen.

"The top av the mornin' to ye,
acushla," sez I, gettin' up, an' offerin'
her a chair.

"Thank you," sez she, spakin' loike
the wee fella wid the buttons, but
foiner: "I won't sit down. I thought
Bridget was here."

"She is not," sez I. "Wan av thim
bells forinist ye is just after ringin',
an' off she wint, sayin' her ladyship
wanted her."

"Are you her brother?" sez the col-
leen, smollin' as swate as ye plaze.

"I am," sez I, "an' no wan else.
Blissed be the day I left Belfast an'
tuk the steamer that's after bringin'
me, saysick all the toime, to be cured
by the sight of the luvliest colleen
that iver was, an' that's yoursilf now!"

"I'm afraid you're a dreadful flatter-
er, Mr. Flannigan," sez she, sthillin'
smollin' in a curious way. "Is your
home anywhere near Blarney castle?"

"Not a bit av it," sez I; "but 'tis not
far from Shaness castle on Lough
Neagh, if ye knows the spot. But
may I suporra if in all ould Oreland
there's a pair of bewitchin' beauch-
ous eyes the avqual of thim that's
forinist me! Phat do you do here?"

"Well," sez she, "I am engaged here,
but not exactly like the rest of the
servants."

"Och, thin, 'tis supposin' I am ye're
her ladyship's own attendant—what
they calls lady's maid maybes."

"You've very nearly guessed cor-
rectly," sez she.

"Arrah no, alannah, 'tis the sin an'
shame to waste your luvly charrms
on a mumber av your own six. Sure a
luvly bit crathur loike ye wud be the
most illigant gintleman's companion
that iver was."

"I'm afraid you're too late," sez she.
"I've already agreed to be a compan-
ion of the kind you speak of."

"Ach, acushla, 'tis terrible dis-
tressed I am to hear av it! But
maybes ye've put no shtamps to your
agraymint, an' in that case av course
ye wudn't be afther thinkin' it
bindin'."

"She said nothin' to this, excep' to
burst into the hearty laughin', which
sounded loike silver bells tinklin'."

The table was betwixt us, bad scan-
to it; if it hadn't been, begorra, I'd
have been afther kissin' her where
she stud, an' faix I believe she'd have
enjoyed it! But just I was gettin'
ready to go round to her the kitchen
dure opens an' in walks Bridget. Whin
she sees the wee colleen standin'
laughin' forinist me she comes for-
ward an' sez to her:

"Beg pardon, me lady, this is me
brother Dennis that I told ye av; 'tis
hopin' I am ye'll be able to give him
the futman's place."

"Och, och, och! when I heard that I
knowed I'd opened me mouth an' put
me fut in it wid a vengeance. Here
I'd been afther makin' luv to me lady
hersilf, an' now—well, I was shtruck
spachless all at wance. But begorra
'twas wan av the roight sort me lady
was, for she sez to Bridget, sez she:

"Well, Bridget, I've just been hav-
in' a little conversation with your
brother Dennis, and I think he is far
too clever a young man for a foot-
man; but I'll speak to Sir Charles
about him, and perhaps we may be
able to give him a situation in which
his abilities will have greater scope
for exercise."

Thin she turns to me an' sez,
smollin' all over:

"Good-bye, Mr. Flannigan. I shall
be sure to tell my husband what a
pleasant companion you have been
this mornin'."—Detroit News Trib-
une.

An AMERICAN UTOPIA.

Social Economist Gives His Views of
a Model City.

In a recent University Extension
lecture Professor Charles Zueblin enu-
merated the various ideals of city life,
contrasting these with conditions only
too commonly prevailing at the pres-
ent time. There can be little doubt,
if one may judge the eminent social
economist by his suggestions in this
respect, says the Municipal Journal
and Engineer, that he occupies an ad-
vanced position in the advocacy of
civil intervention, the provision of
municipal lodging houses and laun-
dries being merely typical instances
of his desires.

Generalities of this kind are not
without their value. Purer air, better
water, cleaner streets, improved per-
sonal hygiene have all been used, and
used with success, as slogans in the
attack upon unsanitary conditions. It
is only when these are left behind,
their places being taken by concrete
suggestion and advice, that the ideal-
ist advocates runs the risk of criticism
at the hands of more practical if less
enthusiastic counselors. Take, for in-
stance, the professor's dictum that
every city situated as Toledo should
have two distinct systems of water
supply—one, a filtration plant, for
drinking, cooking and bathing pur-
poses; the other a high-pressure
plant, designed primarily for fire pro-
tection. Dual supplies have existed
in the past; at least one example sur-
vives in England today; but in that
instance the efforts exerted during
many years toward its abolition are
now nearing fruition, and Shrews-
bury will soon be, in this respect, as
other British cities.

Again, it is at least doubtful whether
the volume of water used for fire
extinction forms a sufficiently large
proportion of the total supply to jus-
tify the expense of installing a sep-
arate high-pressure system, especial-
ly when it is remembered that under
modern conditions it is indispensable
that the potable supply be also deliv-
ered in the topmost stories of the
highest houses. When a dual supply
was proposed for London several
years ago—before the water compan-
ies had shown what could be effected
in practice by filtration on a large
scale—the fire demands were to be
met from the proposed new "pure
water" system, the apparent extrava-
gance being amply justified when the
smallness of the actual fire demands
was disclosed. These demands, it is
true, are larger in America, but their
true proportion would be a primary
factor in any decision of this char-
acter.

In the matter of public laundries
Professor Zueblin urges their provision
by the municipality as making for
better sanitary conditions, besides tak-
ing the drudgery of washday out of
the home. But English experience
teaches that with the erection of im-
proved working-class homes the need
for public laundries disappears. Granting the advantages of joint user
in this respect, this can best be se-
cured by the extension of co-operative
living which is more highly developed
in America than in Great Britain. It
may at least be doubted whether the
professor is prepared to indorse a
scheme for the municipal supply of
apartment houses, in which joint
kitchens and laundries take the place
of the present individual facilities for
cooking and washing.

Fearing that he would be punished
for spending seven pence for sweets
instead of buying fruit for his mother,
a schoolboy at Adorf, Saxony, threw
himself in front of a train and was
killed.



Ingenious Pickpockets.

Two English girls were recently ar-
rested in Paris while picking pockets
in a most ingenious way. One of them
carried a parasol in the handle of
which was a spring that worked a
pair of nippers concealed in the point
of the ferule. As she strolled along
with the parasol under her arm she
would cut a watch-chain with the nip-
pers while the other one would deftly
relieve the victim of his watch.

Health and Beauty.

A number of medical men were re-
cently asked the interesting question,
"What is the secret of health, strength
and beauty?" and in the answers given
the greatest stress was laid upon the
importance of diet. The woman
who would be beautiful must be
healthy, and the means she must
adopt to this end is to study the com-
position of her daily menu with a
view to including in it food of a pure-
ly nourishing value. The would-be
robust person should be careful never
to eat too much. The palate may be
tickled by some particular dish, but
the path of wisdom for the adult over
thirty is never to eat more than is
really necessary to keep one in good
working order.—New York Mail.

Fraisette: A New Color.

A new shade which has just ap-
peared in Paris, and of which we shall
hear a good deal as the season advanc-
es, is signified by the name of "frais-
ette." Like so many of our color
schemes, the name hardly "meets the
occasion," the color having the brown-
ish-mauve tint of a faded pink rose.
As a matter of fact, the return of
spring will herald in a number of
variations of the popular mauve
shades, and such old favorites as
Parma violet and heliotrope will be
hardly distinguishable in their novel
guise.

Another sensation in Paris is the
new velvet known by the form "cote
de cheval," which has sufficient glos-
siness and smoothness to justify its
fancied resemblance to the skin of a
well-groomed equine favorite.

True Culture.

The woman who looks at manners
from the standpoint of the caterer or
the silversmith forgets that the essen-
tials of good breeding are not affected
by the fashion of the moment, and
that these are of far more importance
than the newest style in tablecloths.
A lady is known to be always and
everywhere because refinement of
bearing, voice and manner, together
with courtesy toward others, charac-
terizes a well-bred person in all lands.
One who has inherited her silver plate
from a line of distinguished ancestors
is not troubled about the style of her
teaspoons. Those who display so much
anxiety about the paraphernalia of
the table convey the impression that
their position in the world has under-
gone a sudden change. There is no
disgrace in being a new-rich man or
woman provided one does not behave
as if the money had gone to the brain.
—Harper's Bazar.

Women's Higher Education.

It is estimated by Dr. M. Carey
Thomas, president of Bryn Mawr col-
lege, that there are 38,400 women stu-
dents in colleges the current year.

In another generation, it is predict-
ed, one-half of all the people who have
been to college in the United States
will be women.

The way was paved for the higher
education of women by the early suf-
fragists who began in 1848 to ask for
woman's political equality; and by
1868, when woman's college education
really began in this country, they had
completely altered public opinion in
regard to women.

This is one-third of the entire stu-
dent body in higher educational in-
stitutions in the United States.

The individual college woman and
those in women's clubs, who have
been awakened to a sense of civic re-
sponsibility, and who try to obtain
laws to save little children from work-
ing cruel hours in cotton mills or to
open summer gardens for homeless
little waifs on the streets of a great
city, are being driven, Dr. Thomas de-
clares, to demand a vote for the sake
of the wrongs they try to right.

Fruit for the Complexion.

As every woman desires to have a
good complexion, she should remem-
ber that the benefit to her skin from
any cosmetic or lotion is not to be
compared with that to be given by the
use of fruit. This should be eaten as
a staple article of diet, and not as a
luxury or delicacy.

Grapes and apples are among the
most nutritious of fruits, and these
generally agree with even the most
delicate. A baked sweet apple with
cream is both nutritious and good for
the skin. Strawberries enrich the
blood and contain a large percentage
of iron. Oranges, limes and lemons
are of great value in improving the
complexion and a couple of oranges
eaten before breakfast will often clear
a muddy skin.

Those who suffer from acidity should
not eat acid fruit with farinaceous
food. Fruit, such as cherries and
plums, should be thoroughly masticat-
ed and the skin of raw fruits should
never be eaten. Stale fruit is unfit

for use. Many persons suffer after
eating fruit, because of swallowing a
multitude of germs, which always
swarm upon the surface of fruit, and
multiply under the favorable condi-
tions afforded by warmth and mois-
ture.

College Girls Tempt Burglars.

So strong is the confidence among
college girls that their fellow students
or servants have no idea of robbing
them that they can't be prevailed upon
to put money and jewels under lock
and key. They leave diamond rings
and pins blazing on dressing tables,
while pocketbooks and loose bills peep
invitingly from bureau drawers. If a
trunk vanishes as by magic, its owner
seldom feels worried—that is, not
for a day or two—for she argues that
one of "another of her friends has just
dropped in and "borrowed" it. Often
a girl will miss an evening coat, scarfs
and gloves and make no attempt to
find them until she wants to wear
them, and not infrequently, at the end
of this search she will find her missing
raiment almost worn out. This,
however, is considered the limit of bad
manners, and generally the attire is
restored to its original owner in fair-
ly good condition. Room doors are
usually unlocked, and as the entrance
door of the dormitory is always un-
locked there is nothing to prevent a
woman burglar from ransacking a
dozen or so rooms in a brief period.
She will find rings slipped over hat
pins stuck in pin cushions, watches
ticking comfortably in pin trays, neck-
laces dropped over perfume bottles, and,
in fact, everything arranged to
tempt the enterprising looter.—New
York Press.

CHINA GETTING READY LIKE JAPAN DID.

To form an oblong loop, which is
grasped by the hand of the operator.
Between the disks are a number of
horizontal cutting blades. These
blades are made of narrow strips of
tin and are arranged so that the outer
edge is even with the edge of the disks,
the cutters being rigidly secured. The
strips of tin being narrow there re-
mains a blank space back of the blades,
which is adapted to receive the dough
when cut, thus avoiding the difficulty
experienced in cake cutters of the
dough sticking between the blades.
When the dough passes to the blank
space back of the blades it can be read-
ily shaken out upon the board by the
operator. In operation, after the dough
is rolled out to form a sheet of the de-
sired thickness, the operator, L, means
of the handle, rolls the disks over the
dough. This action brings the cutters
into contact with the dough, the cakes
being cut of a size and shape corre-
sponding to the spaces between the cut-
ters.—Philadelphia Record.

Too Busy Preaching to Practise.

Not long since a well-known society
woman, the president of a county fed-
eration of women's clubs, read a very
interesting paper on beautifying the
public highways. The clubs proposed
to undertake such a work on a road
that ran along the banks of a famous
river. This road is about thirty miles
long, and the women proposed to take
sections, cut down the weeds and pre-
serve everything of attractive nature.
The paper was read at a farmers' in-
stitute, and the reader appealed to
farmers' wives to help out in the pro-
ject. They were urged to take more
pains with their own farm premises,
and some of them were taken to task
for careless conduct. Nobody found
any fault with this paper, the farmers
seemed to like it, and they gave the
woman substantial encouragement.

But the appeal of the president of
the women's clubs lost much of its
effect by after developments. The
home of this woman is on one of the
most beautiful streets in one of the
villages of the county, that is famed
for its natural beauty. This street is
a part of the thirty-mile roadway
that it was proposed to improve. Af-
ter her paper had been read there was
introduced in the village council a
resolution in which the street superin-
tendent was directed to request the
president of the women's clubs to
abate an eye-sore that she had been
maintaining for years. She was ac-
customed to cord her stove wood close
to the sidewalk in front of her resi-
dence. The resolution went through
without a dissenting voice.—J. L.
Craff in the New York Tribune.

Fashion Notes.

The newest race and motor wraps
are made of dyed shantung silks.

A novelty material is a very fine
reseda mixture with orange pin-stripe
running through it.

While cloth of the most supple make
and trimmed with Venice or Irish lace
has been adopted for dinner gowns.

There are many new cloths shown
this season, though the plain chiffon
broadcloths are in the vanguard of
fashion.

Both the water-blue and natural
shantung silk are being utilized for
simple short waists with soft cambric
embroidered turn-down collar and
cuffs.

Some of the summer white embroid-
ered gowns, inlet with insertions of
Valenciennes, flounces and medallions,
are veritable works of art, and costly
withal.

A hand-made yoke of Renaissance
looks soft and fine for a theatre gown,
is thin enough for comfort and is gen-
erally preferred to the low-necked
gown in our smaller American cities.

Lace and silk are used in nearly
equal proportions this season; for ex-
ample, we may see one gown of silk
with a lace overdress, and the next
one will be a lace or net gown with
silk Directoire coat.

A novel arrangement of the front
fullness of a bodice is to gather it be-
low a crescent-shaped piece of con-
trasting material placed just above
the bust line, leaving a wide space at
the middle front quite plain. If of
lingerie materials, the crescent should
be of embroidery.

Paris has declared that white is
still to be first favorite; and then,
with the charming inconsistency for
which she is famous, has sent over
fascinating muslins, with the color
note contrived by means of embroid-
ery, in true French blue, which shares
honors with the embroidery done in
white, the two being on the same piece.

AN ARCHED TREE OVER AN OHIO ROAD.



John S. Welter, of Upper Sandusky, Ohio, sends us the accompanying photograph of an oak tree which is a most striking natural growth. The tree is near the village of Wharton, Wyandotte County, Ohio. The roadway which it arches is forty feet wide. At the base the diameter of the tree measures two feet.—Scientific American.

CAKE CUTTER.



A MODERN CHINESE SOLDIER.

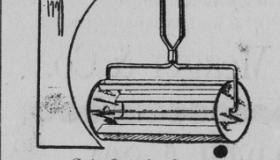
THE NEW CURATE.

"They do say, my dear, he was fear-
fully wild at Oxford."—Bystander.

A New Use For Love Letters.

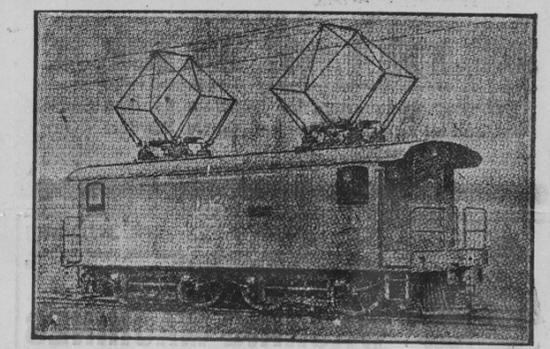
Two devoted lovers who were mar-
ried last year in Virginia, "the home
of love and beauty," exchanged daily
love letters during their engagement.
As the day drew near on the letters ac-
cumulated, and at the time the wed-
ding day arrived, each of the corre-
spondents had a goodly number, for
they never destroyed any. Finally, the
happy bride-elect had all the letters
encased in two white satin pillows,
which were brought to the church aisle
before the ceremony and placed in
front of the altar, says Home Notes.
The bride and bridegroom knelt upon
these to make their vows, and the
pillows were then carefully transferred
to a place of honor in the new home.

Cuts Out the Cakes.



fancy pastry, etc. It consists of two
disks of tin or other desirable material,
the edges operating as a cutter. A
bearing is formed in the centre of each
disk, to which is secured the ends of a
forked handle, the bearing being made
of solder, so that it will securely ad-
here to the disk. The handle is being
formed of a single piece of wire, bent

NEW GIANT ELECTRIC LOCOMOTIVE.



There has been shipped to New York
for the New York, New Haven and
Hartford Railroad the first of the twen-
ty-five new-style electric locomotives
which are being constructed by the
Westinghouse Company, at Pittsburg.
This locomotive has just been com-
pleted and is now being put through
its final tests on the Westinghouse
Interworks Railway at East Pittsburg.
It is claimed by the Westinghouse peo-
ple that this locomotive will ultimately
drive the old steam locomotive but of
the business. They guarantee that it
will haul a train of 250 tons between
New York and Boston, at an average
speed of seventy miles per hour. It
weighs seventy-eight tons and has four
400-horse-power electric motors. It
differs from the old-style electric loco-
motive in that it is operated by the
alternating electric current, single-phase
system.—Philadelphia Record.