

### 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  
twittered: "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.

"Pollsmen!" 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 pollsmen are her best  
friends in this dirty old 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 plazze.

"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 liveliest 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 odd Oreland  
there's a pair of bewitchin' beauchous  
eyes the avqual of them 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 lovely charrms  
on a mumber av your own six. Sure a  
lively 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 after 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 after 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 after 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 advocate 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 provi-  
sion 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. Grant-  
ing 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.

### Frailette: 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 "frai-  
sette." 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 masticated  
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 own-  
er 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.

### 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 Venise 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  
fulness 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 a 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.

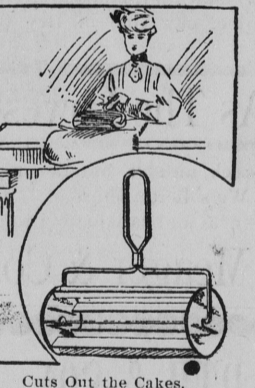
### CHINA GETTING READY LIKE JAPAN DID.



A MODERN CHINESE SOLDIER.

### CAKE CUTTER.

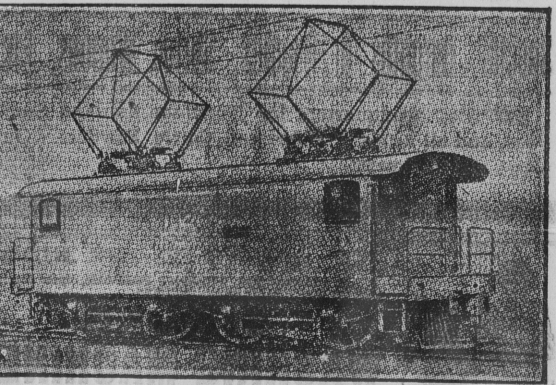
A Montana inventor has devised a  
cake cutter by which cakes of a uni-  
form size can be cut from the dough,  
leaving a minimum amount of material  
to be worked over for the second time,  
and one that is especially adapted to  
the cutting of doughnuts, ladyfingers,  
fancy pastry, etc. It consists 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



Cuts Out the Cakes.

Two devoted lovers who were mar-  
ried last year in Virginia, "the home  
of love and beauty," exchanged daily  
loves during their engagement.  
As the day drew near the wedding  
day, each of the correspondents  
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 care-  
fully transferred to a place of honor in  
the new home.

### 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 out 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.