We had both of us said we would rather
It be "give or take" philopene—
Whatever one gave to the other
In any way during that e'en
The other should surely repay,
A gift and a keepsake to be.
She meant in good faith I will say,
But I—well, who could have blamed mer
For soon as our compact was a sleaf
I gave her a kiss on the check"Philopenal" I cefeel, "you must yield
And pay me another next week."
She had promised; she knew she was
eaught,

And the bright color mantical her brow,
And she said, "I will pay if I ought,
But—let it be over with—nov?"
—Abbie F. Brown in Yankee Blade.

The Cost of Ginsen;

In England we have been accustomed to pay high prices at certain times for such as quinine, cocaine and others, but a drug is used in New China which in actual value far surpasses anything which has been known here.

The substance in question is called ginseng and is the root of Aralia quin-quefolia. It is so highly valued as a tonic and stimulant medicine in China that it is sold at from 20 to 250 times its weight in silver, sometimes for 500 times that amount. Authorities state, however, that it possesses no important medicinal properties. Next to China the drug is produced in good quality in Corea and is the principal article of ex-port from Corea into China. So much is this the case that the Coreans are louth to part with any seeds of the plant lest their practical monopoly in this root should be invaded.

The wonder is that with such a much used commodity at such a price steps are not taken to cultivate it in sufficient quantity so as to adjust the balance be-tween supply and demand. The reduction, for example, in the price of qui-nine was largely the result of increased cultivation of the cinchona plant, and the same may be said of cocaine in respect to the cocoa plant.—Pearson's Weekly.

The Man Got a Whipping.

Some few years ago in the depths of winter an old pair had ascended the "wooden hill" for their night's rest. They had been there some time when the old clock struck 2. The next minute they were startled by their bedroom door opening, and in walked their son Will, with a face as long as a hiddle.
"Well, Will," exclaimed the fond

father, "what is the matter?" "There's a man in the house," said the

The father jumped out of bed, snatch-

ed up the poker, the wife following suit with the tongs, and they went down-stairs, followed by Will. The house was searched, but no man was found. "Where's the man?" said the father.

Will, with a twist of the few bristles on his upper lip, straightened himself, and pointing to his breast said:

"Father, here he is."
It was his twenty-first birthday! He got a whipping for it, man or no man. Yankee Blade.

Wholesale Plating.

One of the most remarkable illustrations of progress in electrical appliances is electrolitic painting. Hitherto if cop-per or other metal had to be deposited electrically a bath of solution was needed. Now all this is changed, and a ship's hull can be plated as easily as a spoon or a teapot. Instead of a bath, insoluble salts, ground to a fine powder and mixed with water are used. This mixture is painted on the metal to be plated by a fine wire brush, to which one pole of a dynamo conductor is attached, the other pole being connected to a plate. Not only pure metal, but all sorts of alloys can be used.—Exchange.

What Aluminium Is.

There are many misconceptions about aluminium that are widespread and which it seems difficult to correct in the public mind. Aluminium is not, section for section, a very strong metal. It is only one-half as strong as wrought iron. It has a very low elastic limit. It is not rigid, but bends under a transverse strain readily. It is in its alloys that its utility commences to appear. With 8 to 12 per cent of copper or ninium bronze we have one of the most dense, finest grained and strongest metals known.-New York Telegram.

For the Canary Bird.

Canary birds are often covered with vermin. They may be relieved of them by placing a clean white cloth over their cage at night. In the morning the cloth will be covered with minute red spots, so small that they can hardly be seen with the naked eye. These are the parasites, a source of great annoyance to the birds.—Philadelphia Press.

Very Polite.

"How do you like your new music

"He is a very nice, polite young man. When I made a mistake yesterday, he said, 'Pray, mademoiselle, why do you take so much pains to improve upon Beethoven?"—Philadelphia Telegraph.

The throne, the grandees, the high celesiastics, the captains general, the dmirals and the ministers of state in Spain wield a very powerful influence in Spanish politics and control the upper house of the cortes.

The thinnest tissue paper measures -1200 of an inch in thickness. The Krupp gun works claims a machine which will roll fron so thin that it would take 1,800 sheets to make an inch.

Teach children to say, "Yes, mother for father)," and "No, mother," and to say, "Yes, sir (or madam)," to old people or to those who adhere to the old ways of speech.

The advice of your dentist should be sought as to the proper tooth powder to use, as many of the compounds on the market contain harmful acids and gritty

Travelers by rail in Russia are divided to three classes—civil, military and myict, with the further subdivision of tying and nonpaying.

A Man Sleeping In the Street.

A well dressed man leaning against tamppost and apparently alceping th sleep of the just created a great deal interest in a busy London street to ther day. He sat on a box which

other day. He sat on a box which had been carrying.

Evidently, being suddenly overcome with drowsiness, he had placed the box on the curbstone, and sitting down upon it had fallen asleep. To those who succeeded in getting close enough to the man his gentle, restful snore dispelled the fear that he might be dead. The side of his face was exposed and beside of his face was exposed and be-trayed no sign of intoxication. It was the judgment of every one that he was sober, in good health and simply taking a quiet snooze.

When the crowd became so deep as to threaten a blockade, the supposed sleeper suddenly jumped to his feet, mounted his box, and flourishing a couple of bottles over his head exclaimed:

"Now, gents, seein that you are all here, I rise to a question of privilege, and after thankin you for this most corlial reception, which I assure you will long remain upon the tablets of my memory, I wish to call your attention to my world renowned corn and bunion gradicator."-Exchange.

Reading of the Schoolboy. Reading of the schoolboy.

Habits are contracted and characters formed early in life, and it is probable that the color of a person's reading is mainly determined during the time of nobbledehoydom, when he is in process of passing from the limp and lanky schoolboy to the set and rigid man. Just this time is a most critical paried in at this time is a most critical period in ais career, for now it is that he obtains answortlook into life. Previously he has been concerned with the miniature world of school and looked at the greatr world only with the eyes of a school-But now, entering a business or a profession, he enters into a larger life and begins to look about him with an air of leeper inquiry. And the more he reads of contemporary literature the worse loes he become, for the air is thick with controversy. Nothing is too sacred to se contradicted, and the spirit of "sweet reasonableness" seems to be dead .-Chambers' Journal.

Pretty Cold Weather.

Two boatmen on the Ohio river were alking about cold weather and of a cerain severe winter. "It was just awful," said one of them. "At Cincinnati the river was froze tight, and the thermomster went down to 20 degrees below Cairo."

"Below which?" asked his puzzled companion.

"Below Cairo, you blubberhead! You ee, when it freezes at Cairo it must be pretty cold, so they say so many degrees below Cairo.

But light was bursting in upon the other. "No, they do not," he exclaimed "You've got it all wrong. It's to many degrees below Nero. I do not thow what it means, but that's what they say when it's dreadful cold."—Harer's Young People.

Mayor and Wooden Leg.

Mayor Willard of Argentine, Mo., unstrapped his wooden leg and beat into a tractable mood a claimant who was too persistent in his attempt to collect an unjust bill from the city. It does not follow that all wooden legged men would make good mayors, but such a man as Willard, with a wooden leg, has points of advantage over a man with a wooden head—and towns east of the Rocky mountains have had that kind of mayors. -New York Commercial Advertiser.

The Appetite of the Ostrich. It is never safe to drop any article when walking near a covey of ostriches. The ostrich will eat anything, seeming apparently to have no sense of taste. A story is told of a young girl who was visiting a zoo where a large ostrich snatched her kid gloves, which were rolled into a ball, and ate them. The next day the girl returned with the famof a half dozen pairs of gloves, all of which were as readily

Two Strange Meetings.

swallowed.—Detroit Free Press

At table d'hote in a New York hotel wo strangers met about a year since. An interesting conversation ended by nearty pledges of mutual friendship. ely six months later to the day and almost to the hour they again met, without the slightest prevision or prearangement, at the same hotel and the ame table. During the interval each and traveled around the world, one eastward, the other westward.—Exchange

Chokes, Not Jokes. "Don't send the horse reporter to any nore hangings," said the proprietor of a Cexas paper to the managing editor.

Managing Editor—Why not?

Proprietor-In this report of the double anging he has it that the two entries ame in neck and neck. In reporting xecutions levity is out of place.—Texas liftings.

Mr. Gladstone is one of those cauious people who do not destroy letters. fhe venerable statesman is said to have collection of 60,000 letters deposited in strongroom at Hawarden castle.

A farmer near Spartanburg, S. C., had aissed many eggs of late, so he decided p set a trap and catch the offender. The hief, he claims, proved to be a large

Educational accomplishment has al-rays been desirable, but its need is now nore plainly felt than ever before, and ts attainment is better provided for.

In a perfect state of being, wit and amor could not exist because both de-send upon imperfection or incongruity or their matter.

A copy of the first dictionary, made by hinese scholars in the year 1109 B. C., still preserved among the archives of he Celestials.

A dollar loaned for 100 years and com-pounded at 84 per cent will amount in that time to \$2,051,780,404.

In "The Arabian Nights" we read of a wise sage who cured a great king by a decoction with which he anointed the handle of a stick with which the king was in the habit of playing a game at ball, to the end that when the royal hand perspired in the vigor of the play the open pores might receive the medica-

The translator speaks of this stick as a "golfstick" (sic), but it is plain from the context that the game was played on horseback. It was, in fact, polo. Indeed the illustrations of the very same edition show the said king playing the game on horseback.—Blackwood's Magn-

He Won't Be Expelled.

Mouldy Mike—By all th' saints, has yer lost yer mind? Wot you carryin that saw for?

Ragged Robert—It's all right. I stop at houses an offer to saw wood fer me

"You'll be expelled from the Travelin Gentlemen's union.

"No, I won't. After dinner I tell 'em I can't work till I file me saw. They lend me a file an tell me to go way off where they won't hear me filin. Most any saloon will give a drink for a good file."—New York Weekly.

Detecting a Culprit.

The Rev. Joseph Haven, who preached in Rochester, N. H., during the last quarter of the last century, has been always remembered for his genial spirit and his inexhaustible humor. One story told of him has many parallels, but it is quite as likely to be true in his case as

The boy had been guilty of some grave offense, and yet would not confess it.

"I can tell who did it," said the parson, and accordingly he called together all the boys suspected and explained to them that he had confined a rooster under a kettle in a darkened room. One after another they must pass in and touch the kettle. When the guilty boy touched it, he might expect to hear the rooster crow.

The lads filed in and out again and were made to display their fingers. All but those of one lad were sooty. He, the guilty one, had not ventured to touch the telltale kettle.—Youth's Companion.

Showing That Plants Can See.

Can plants see? Darwin gave it as his opinion that some of them can, and an Indian botanist relates some curious incidents which tend to verify the belief. Observing one morning that the tendrils of a convolvulus on his veranda had decidedly leaned toward his legs as he lay in an attitude of repose, he tried a series of experiments with a long pole, placing such a position that the leaves would have to turn away from the light in order to reach it. In every case he found that the tendrils set themselves visibly toward the pole and in a very few hours had twined themselves closely around it.-London Public Opinion.

A Scientific Fact. A lady asked an astronomer if the

moon was inhabited. "Madam," he replied, "I know of one moon in which there is always a man

"Which is that?" "The honeymoon." - Journal Amus-

Miscellaneous.

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