ASPIRE.

Never cease aspiring—
Long for something higher
Greater good aspiring,
Fill your heart, ne'er tiring,
With a holy fire.

Cast off every fettereep each hope alive! Make success your debtor! Failure v'en is better Than to never strive.

Though your great aim never Here you may attain, Constant be endeavor! To aspire is ever In its If a gain. leorge Birdseye, in Detroit Free Press

THE SMOKING CHIMNEY.

BY E. C. WAGGENER,

tried!

In the top story of a pretention steeling in the Rue de la Causse d'Autinime di terme on the top branch of a poplar, a young man by the name of Passereaud, of quiet, orderly habits, amiable temper, modest bearing and-whose clothes were patched. He had just graduated from the Ecole Centrale and shortly afterwards had been offered by the "Calcium Mines of the mont at five hundred frances per month, which, I am told, would have given him necessities. Unfortunately he had been thinking of inventing an "automatic brake" in keep locomotives from running through each other when meeting on a single truck, or at least to soften the shock of contact till they would only see a good, clear fire. "How hone of the shock of contact till they would only see a good, clear fire." "Wood it shall be, then." But the substitution of wood for coal did not make the chimney are a wood in the company's proposals in order to give himself entrely, day and night, to the confection of draughts for this wonderful invention destined to revolutionize the world. He expected from it both and and to the confection of draughts for this wonderful invention destined to revolutionize the world. He expected from it both and and fortune, and mean while confided in the state of the shake being almost completed, and a automatic as the most fastidious lecomotive could possibly desire.

One day on the staircase, or rather on the first floor landing, he came face to face with a beautiful young girl, a blonder also gracult of walk and carriage that same hour, and—more fortuitous still—the girl referred to passed him again. This time—at least it seemed so—she blushed as he passed.

Fearing to have offended her Passer and was in considerly as he had feared—a third encounter occurred and Passeraud was in considerly as he had feared—a third encourter occurred and Passeraud was in considerly as he had feared—a third encourter occurred and Passeraud was in considerly as he had feared—a third encounter occurred and Passeraud was in considerly as he had fear

"So much the worse for you, then! How can I help it? Your servant, with all my heart, monsieur my locataire!" And Passereaud retired, positively so desolate that he forgot to be confused, white always behind him M. Lamantin was roaring:
"Not a sou! Nothing to do! And demanding my daughter's hand! It is just too funny for anything!"

That visit, however, which had such disastrous results for our inventor, made but a passing impression upon the mind of M. Lamantin. That which made his face so anxious some twenty-four hours later was the fact that his drawing-room fire had suddenly began to smoke like a trooper.

In the middle of December, too, and just as he was preparing to celebrate his only daughter's nineteenth birthaday.

Was ever a proprietor more sorely tried?

Was ever a proprietor more soriety triod?
In hot haste, puffing with importance and running, the architect came.
"Is that all?" cried he angrily when he found what was up. "You sent for me for that?"
"If find it enough, too," responded M. Lamantin, with equal acerbity. "Think you it's a pleasure to own a chimney that makes us cry all day long? One would suppose we'd a funcari in the house!"
"But your chimney, sir, was built by my plan," said the architect; "that is to say, it can not smoke!"

tor of this pretentious dwelling and bluntly addressed to him—really I blush to transcribe it, it was so very innocent—the following request:
"I have the honor, monsieur, of asking you for mademoiselle, your daughter's hand?"
"Eh? What? My daughter's hand?"
cried the old man, critically scanning Passereaud from head to foot; "for whom, if you please?"
"Myself, monsieur."
"i or yourself—but are you not my

whom, if you please?"
"Myself, monsieur."
"I or yourself—but are you not my locataire of the top floor; way up there under the eaves?"
"The same, monsieur."
"The same, monsieur."
"Then—what is amiss with your head, young man? Know you not that my daughter has four million france, a trifling detail that I'm good enough to impart to you! Four millions, understand And you—what have you?"
"Nothing," the inventor replied with the most ingenuous frankness; then hem good to see him skin with the most ingenuous frankness; then

young man? Know you not that my daughter has four million francs, a trifling detail that I'm good enough to impart to you! Four millions, understand! And you—what have you?"

"Nothing," the inventor replied with the most ingenuous frankness; then added: "I am not rich now, but if you will give me the hand of Mile, Valentine, believe me that my work will soon more than meet my modest requirements."

"Be of! Be of!, I say!" roared the irate proprietor. "Is it to make me the haughing stock of the town that you ask me for my daughter's hand? Quick, off with you!"

"But, see you, monsicur, if I'm not to terturn till my brake wins millions for mo I run the risk of finding Mile. Valentine married to another man! I will take no such chances, sir!"

Hand about a sereaud, remember, had shut out all observers—would have heard the about = "t is sereaud about ere, and here, and also here, that my adored one breathes!"

And that same observer would have been greatly amazed to see him skip is from one seat to another, now lying at length upon a velvet couch—as Valentine observers would have been greatly amazed to see him skip is from one seat to another, now lying at length upon a velvet couch—as Valentine observers would have been greatly amazed to see him skip is from one seat to another, now lying at length upon a velvet couch—as Valentine observers would have been greatly amazed to see him skip is from one seat to another, now lying at length upon a velvet couch—as Valentine observers would have been greatly amazed to see him skip is from one seat to another, now lying at length upon a velvet couch—as Valentine observers would have been greatly amazed to see him skip is from one seat to another, now lying at length upon a velvet couch—as Valentine observers would have been greatly amazed to see him skip is from one seat to another, now lying at length upon a velvet couch—as Valentine observers would have been greatly amazed to see him skip is that my adored one breathes!"

And that same observers would have been greatly a

"The fire, monsieur, the fire; start it

immediately!"
His command obeyed, parbleu! the chimney was found to draw with such force and energy that it very nearly drew up the logs themselves. A gentle heat pervaded the apartment, slowly, if I may phrase it so, unfreezing it—and no smoke!

moke? The Parisian architects and Piedmont octorhood were beaten clean out of ght and mind. Above them Passcreaud's cuius shone like the sun. A blind man ould have seen it.
"It is subline!" cried M. Lamantin in "It is willine!"

could have seen it.

"It is subline," cried M. Lamantin in an cestacy of joy; "sublime, my little locataire! You are a born inventor, and you shall also be my son-in-law if Valentine says so."

"Oh! yes, papa!" said Valentine; "yes, yes; your son-in-law!"

One year after this marvelous event Passereaud was the father of a son as beautiful as the day. M. Lamantin was again ecstatic.

"Which reminds me, my son-in-law," said he, some hours after the event, "that there is one thing that I want you to explain to me a little more fully. For more than six months now all the railroad companies of the country have adopted your 'automatic brake;' barrels of money come to you from all quarters, and you sell privileges for the use of your invention in nearly every country of the world. You are rich not only through your wife, but on your own account. Doesn't this set you to thinking! It does me, at any rate. I am worrying about your other invention, father-in-law?" cried Passereaud, bewildered; "what do you mean!" "Obecidedly you are too modest! You know very well what I mean. What could I mean but that secret of yours to been them so moking! You

know very well what I mean. What could I mean but that secret of yours to keep chinneys from smoking? You can't tell me now that you are too poor to pay the annual fees!"

[Pah]: it would bring in precious

"Ban' 11 would but a ring on your finger. One should never neglect a chance of making money."

"Father-in-law, please don't let us talk of that." 'Why not, pray? I know that I'm

right But you will make me tell things that

right."
"But you will make me tell things that I don't want to tell, things that I want to keep to myself."
"Go on, go on; tell, I say!"
"Well, then, know you that I never stopped your chimney from smoking—I only stopped making it smoke! A shade of difference, you see. I was living under the roof then, and had only to stretch up my arms and cover the vent pipe with anything handy, a plate, for instance. It was your fault entirely; like other fathers you obliged the lover to resort to strategy to win the girl. My success, however, was due to Valentine, since it was she that told the concierge to introduce me as the greatest C. D. in the neighborhood. Forgive us both and console yourself with the thought that it was one of Fortune's capers. Success for lovers is really a law of nature.—[From the French.

Preparing the Mail.

At this jument as the pold a femine.

At this jument all pold a femine.

This tim—at least it seemed so—she had the least it seemed so—she pold the pold and the pold a

"I don't fancy loans."
"So be it: have your way. I'm off. Do your little machinations in peace and quiet,"
"No peeps through the keyhole?"
"I swear it."
"And if I succeed I've your promisc—Valentine's hand?"
"Come, come! my locataire, begin your work; no knife to my throat, pleas—all the same, I'm a man of justice."
But once atone Passearaud, instead of obeying and beginning his work, began losing his time in idle trifling highly inappropriate to the gravity of the situation. An attentive observer—but Passereaud, remember, had shut out all observers—would have heard him murmuring as he filted about I have heard him murmuring as he filted about I have heard him murmuring as he filted about I have heard him murmuring as he filted about I have heard him murmuring as he filted about I have heard him murmuring as he filted about I have heard him murmuring as he filted about I have heard him murmuring as he filted about I have heard him murmuring as he filted about I have heard him murmuring as he filted about I have heard him murmuring as he filted about I have heard him murmuring a heard of the pebble extra collection was burned, but her provide the pebble into her pocket with several others, and upon her return to heard the public through the pebble into her pocket with several others, and upon her return to heard the pebble into her pocket with several others, and upon her return to heard the pebble into her pocket with several others, and upon her return to heard the pebble into her pocket with several others, and upon her return to heard the pebble into her pocket with several others, and upon her return to heard the pebble into her pocket with several others, and upon her return to heard the pebble into her pocket with several others, and upon her return to several others, and upon her return to heard the pebble extra collection with various dependence of the rome in Atlanta, and the her of her home in Atlanta, and upon her return to several others, and upon her return to several others, and upon her return to

The Champion Lazy Man.

Even the preachers are not averse to a joke that lies in the line of the professional funny man. One of them told the following in an east-side church lately when he was invited to speak: A traveler discovered a man lying an the ground one warm day within a foot or two of the shade of a tree. "Why don't you lie in the shade?" he inquired. "I did," replied the man, "but it has moved away from me and I can't afford to follow it," "Well, if you are not the best specimen of a lazy man I have seen yet! Make me another remark on a par with that and I'll give you a quarter." The man said, "Put the quarter into my pocket." He got it.—[Buffalo Express.

THE JOKER'S BUDGET.

JESTS AND YARNS BY FUNNY

At Last-Misunderstood-She Neve Knew-A Desirable Condition, etc

Her first beau was a tailor, blithe and gay, But as a suitor he was far too fast.

said,
"I've found the man I truly love at last."

-[Philadelphia Times.

MISUNDERSTOOD. MISCONDERSTOOD.

He—I hear you attend the Oratorio Society's performances. Were you present at the "Greation?"

She (indignantly)—I suppose you will next want to know if I sailed in Noah's ark.—[Illustrated American.

SHE NEVER KNEW.

HE-What do you think of the Alli-ance for a third party?
She (glancing at the chaperone)—I never knew of a third party helping on an alliance.—[New York Herald.

A DESIRABLE CONDITION.

"I wish I were a Canadian boy," said Willie, rucfully, after Mr. Ferule, the school teacher, was through with him. "Why so?" asked Jimmie. "They are not going to do any more whaling for ten years."

ENTIRELY FAIR.

The maiden blushed and hung her head, "What do you take me for?" she said. The young man spoke up eagerly, "For better or for worse," said he.

—[Pittsburgh Dispatch.

THE AIRS WERE NUMEROUS. "How did you enjoy the opera last night?" asked Hojack.
"Not very well," replied Passifer.
"The people in the next box prevented me from hearing anything."
"They talked, did they?"
"No, but they put on more airs than the orchestra played."—[Chicago Inter-Ocean.
WHAT WAS ON HER MIND.

what was on her mind.
"I am sorry to say, Mr. Hicks," said
the Boston girl, "that I cannot marry
you, but I assure you," she added, hastily, "this rejection does not necessarily
imply that you lack literary merit. It
may be that——"
said Hicks, interrupting, and Penelope
blushed to think how she had given
herself away.—[New York Sur.

THE AUTHOR OF HIS INJURY.
Obborna-Harrington, of course you

Osborne—Harrington, of course you know of Haliburton; come, I want to introduce you.

Harrington—Excuse me, I have no use for that fellow.
Osborne—Why, what have you against him?

Harrington—Well, old fellow, of course you didn't know; but, you see, he jilted my wife once.—[Bazzr.

A FINE CHILD.

Caller—And this is the new baby, Fond Mother—Isn't he splendid? Caller—Yes, indeed. Fond Mother—And so bright? See how intelligently he breathes.

A SENSIBLE GIRL. Johnson-When I do marry I into marry a sensible girl, if I can it

one.
Tomson—Now there's Miss Sharpe; she jilted me—
Johnson--Just the girl I want. Won't you introduce me?—[Epoch.

May—And so you are an expert yachtsman, Mr. Roundabout?
Roundabout—Why, no; I never handled a yacht in my life!
May—You didn't! Then what a fibster Tom Ryder must be! He told me the other day that you were the cleverest hand in the whole city at standing off a bar!—[New York Herald.

HE "WASN'T IN IT."

-Have you been playing poker a money?
Rodd (disconsolately)—No; but the llers I've been playing with have.

PHILOSOPHY. This world is like a crowded bus; A few good men, perhaps,
May find a seat, but most of us
Must hang on by the straps.
—[Chicago News.

A HINT LOST.

Waiter (as guest rises from his chair and moves away)—Beg pardon, but haven't you forgotten something, sir? Guest (not pleased with his dinner)— Not at all! I may forgive, but I never forget.

Father—Whose fault is it that you are of nearer the head of the class?

Son—It's the fault of the other fellows!

Father—How's that?

Son—'Cause they're smarter 'n I be.

USUALLY APPROPRIATE.

Sanso-Have you a baseball team in Sanso — What do you call your nine?

ACCOUNTED FOR.

are put up of women the reason is (pray And this the rea In two short years the brass would ag

gravate

Her relatives and friends, compassionate,
Because the costume would be out of Because the cost style. -[New York Sun.

WHAT SHE TURNED TO. 'My heart has turned to stone," she said. I mourned at first, but soon got mad, For I discovered it had turned To a brown stone front my rival had.

HE WAS EXPLAINING THE TARIFF. He-I don't think you exactly take ne, Miss Ethel. ne, Miss Ethel. She—I don't think I do, either. You see, I'm already engaged.

A PAIR OF 'EM.

A PAIR OF TEM.

First Wife—There is hardly any living with my husband. He doesn't know any thing.

Second Wife—There is no living at all with mine. He knows every thing.—

[Cape Cod Item.

A BAD SETBACK.

Eastern Man (in Kansas)—You wrote

A BAD SETBACK.

Eastern Man (in Kansas)—You wrote me that Dugoutvile was to be the county seat, but I see that Sodroofville has got it; how did that happen?

Dugoutville Man (sadly)—We ran out of ammunition.—[New York Weekly.

HEALTH NOTE.

A kind-hearted gentleman, seeing a number of boys with their pants rolled up wading about in the cold water with their bare legs, said:

"Come out of that water, boys, or you will get a fearful cough."

Little Tommy—I guess not. We don't cough with our legs, do we?—[Texas Siftings.

A PRACTICAL VIEW OF IT.

oftings.

A PRACTICAL VIEW OF IT.

Ella Wheeler Wilcox says that "while the house-tops a door." We the eagle screams above the house-the wolf howls at many a door." should think that the howls of the would frighten off the screaming eag or vice versa.—[Norristown Herald.

EASILY ARRANGED.

EASILY ARRANCED.

Dashaway (to hostess, after the evening party)—I want to ask you if I may have the privilege of escorting the two Curtis sisters home? They are, by far, the prettiest girls in the room.

Hostess—Certainly, my dear Mr. Dashaway; I was just about to ask you if you would be so kind, for there is such a scarcity of gentlemen. But (archly) it is rather awkward for you that there are two of them.

rather awkward for you that there are two of them.

Dashaway—Oh, that's all right. (A moment later, to the elder Miss Curtis)

—My dear Miss Curtis, I am going to escort your sister home; I will be back for you in half an hour.—[New York Sun.

"our pog."

"OUR DOG,"

"Sissy!" called the boy as he ran up to a little girl standing at the gate in front of a house on High street, "run in and tell your mother that your brother Johnny is having a dog fight in the barn!"

"Is he?"

"Yes,"

"Is your dog in?"

"Yes,"

"Which is whipping?"

"Your dog."

"Which is winpping,
"Your dog."
"Goody-good! Hurry around and tell
Johnny to sic 'em, and to kick the other
dog, and Til stand in the back yard and
tell ma if she comes out that it's only
the cats,"—[Detroit Free Press.

A RISKY PROCEEDING.

"So you love Diana Phayre! Have you ever given her a hint of it?"
"Well, I tried to break the ice the other day, but I'm afraid I chose an in-

opportune moment."
"When was it?"
"When I was out skating with her." A SOCIAL ENTERPRISE.

"I understand there is a company in New York that will furnish dudes for escorts, or for use at germans and cotilions, when there is a shortage of men."

"I've heard of that, I saw one of their signs the other day in Harlem—Flats to Let." "—[Bazar.

FROM BAD TO WORSE.

Babooney—Er—I say, De Quille, what was the name of the place where so many poor writers lived in the last century? De Quille—Grub street. Baboony—And do they live there still? still?
De Quille—No; they've moved to No-Grub attic.—[Munsey's Weekly.

TOO CHEAP.

They were from Chicago and rich. The daughter was taking lessons in coyness and social small talk.

"A penny for your thoughts," she archly remarked to an abstracted visitor, and then felt from the look of horror that overspread her parent's face she must have been guilty of a false step.

"Why didn't you offer him a dollar?" was that lady's criticism after the visitor's departure. "We've got money, and you mustn't be afraid to let folks know it."—[Philadelphia Times.

METHOD IN HER MADNESS,
Cobwigger—Why does a woman have
her pocket where it's so hard to get at?
Merritt—So that she can stick her
friend for the car fare.—[Epoch.

Hawaiian Statistics.

Hawaiian Statistics.

The Hawaiian Government is a limited constitutional monarchy. There is a Parliament, consisting of a House of Nobles and a House of Representatives, the former elected for six years, the latter for two. The two houses meet together, the King's ministers holding seats ex-officio. The foreign relations of the country are controlled by the United States Government. There is a standing army of 250 men, and a volunteer force of 250 more. The area of the islands which comprise the kingdom is 6,677 square miles. When Captain Cook discovered the islands, more than a century ago, there were about 290,000 inhabitants; in 1884 there were only 50,578, of whom 40,014 were native 7,7939 Chinese and 2,066 Americans. The capital. Honolulu, on Oahu Island, has 20,487 inhabitants. Religious freedom prevails. Public schools, 189 in number, are maintained at a cost of more than \$200,000 a year. The soil is of volcanic origin, but mostly extremely fertile. Sugar and rice are the chief products, and coffee, hides, wool, whale oil and bone are also exported. Sugar exports in 1888 week worth \$10,818,000, and rice \$578,000. The islands are well supplied with rail-roads, steamboats, telegraphs, and "all the modern improvements."—[Boston Transcript.

A Russian officer, writing from Ciachta on the Chinese frontier, describes the ex-ceution of twenty-six Tartar robbers, "everyone of whom died with a stoicism which only the highest philosophy could enable our Caucasian countrymen to imiwhich only the highest philosophy could enable our Caucasian countrymen to imitate." Stolid indifference to death seems, indeed, to be a characteristic of the Mongol race, but is certainly more a result of nervous constitution than of philosophy. Out-door life, familiarity with danger, etc., are apt to develop it in any clime, and Australia, as well as our own wild West, have produced abundant Tartars of the described kind. A French military surgeon once told L. Oswald that after a protracted campaign nine out of ten veterans learned to face death about as coolly as plucky recruits would face a storm or an ugly dose of medicine.—[The Voice.

Cost of a London Fog.

Cost of a London Fog.

It is almost impossible to estimate the cost to Londoners of such a fog as, that which spreads over a great part of the metropolis occasionally. To take the case of lighting alone, it has been calculated that on a foggy day the receipts of one only of the large gas companies are increased by more than £5,000.

Besides the increased receipts of other companies, and the numberless lamps and candles burned, allowance must be made for the great falling off in the shop-keepers business for the day, no small tiem in what ought to be the busy times preceding Christmas. In the neighborhood of Hyde Park corner locomotion was absolutely dangerous during the afternoon, despite the use of torches and lamps.—[London News.

MARVELOUS POWER.

A HALF-WITTED MISSOURIAN'S GIFT FOR MATHEMATICS.

Does the Work of Ten Bookkeepers in One Tenth of the Time, and Uses No Paper or Pencil.

Uses No Paper or Pencil.

Rube Field is the kingpin of Missouri freaks. As long as he retains a residence in that town, Warrensburg will be entitled to a place on the map. In a generitide to a place on the map. In a general way Field is not burdened with intelligence, inherent or acquired. He is absolutely devoid of information and possesses fewer social graces than a Digger Indian.

Were it not for his peculiar faculty or "gift," as he terms it, he would be catalogued among idiots, and no more said. In arithmetic, however, he is a lightning striker. There is no problem so difficult that he cannot solve it the instant he comprehends the terms. If a series of numbers, no matter how great or small, are called to him, he gives the amount as soon as the last number is given by the experimenter. Physicians have counseled over him and the wise men of the neighborhood have caucused on his case for the past twenty-five years or more, but no conclusion has been reached in their premises. remises.
Field first burst on Kansas City ten

when F. C. Farr lived in Warrens burg, previous to going to Jefferson as Governor Crittenden's Secretary, he took to a lively interest in Rube's mental and moral welfare, and frequently had the iffreak in his law office to attempt to instill a working knowledge of godliness into him, but without any result that is yet apparent. Mr. Farr spent months in the aggregate endeavoring to explain the principles of rotation and point out the blessings of ebriety to the man, but to no avail. Rube cannot make a figure or refuse a drink to this day.

Where he obtained even a speaking knowledge of the numerals is unknown. It was queer from his birth, the result of prenatal influences, his mother having sheen seriously ill for some time prior to his advent. Instead of repairing to the local temple of learning he would wander off into the woods, and here was another singular trait brought out. Birds and squirrels do not avoid him as they do others, and reptiles of the earth show a strong affection for him.

In summer he usually has an assortment of reptiles concealed about him, and cannot be looked upon as cheerful company for those of nervous temperament. Rube could make large money if he could be prevailed upon to leave home, but he does not care to get far away from Warrensburg. Here and at neighboring towns, whenever an invoice of stock is received at a store, or when the annual accounts are taken, he is employed. When in Kansas City on the occasion above referred to he carned \$200 in three days, several firms employing him.

Another miraculous power with which Field is endowed is his ability to tell time. He usually carries a watch, but as he doesn't know the characters on the dial-plate, and winds it only when the inspiration seizes him, the machine may be considered rather in the light of a fashionable vanity. He is his own chronometer. At any period of the day or night he can give the exact meridian time, not alone in hours and minutes—but in seconds. He is absolutely correct. In common with all geniuses he has his fr

A Servian Romance.

A servian Romance.

A remarkable and very romantic case of unlawful extradition has been engaging the attention of the Skupshtina. A handsome young Servian, having fallen in love with the daughter of a wealthy Beg, or Mussulman land owner, in Albania, failed to obtain the consent of her father to his marriage because he would not become a convert to Islam. Accordingly he cloped with the young lady, whose name is Fatima, and she, on reaching Servian territory, professed her perfect readiness to become a Christian. The Beg, however, had gone in pursuit of his daughter with a band of Albanians, and, appealing to a Servian prefect, he bribed this official to let the bride be kidnapped in the night and carried back to Abania. The prefect has been dismissed, and the Skupshtina, moved by the woes of the bridegroom, is urging the government to insist that the Turkish authorities shall restor. Fatima to her trueband. The rest of the state of the proposal of the rest of the proposal of the proposal of the rest of the proposal of the pro

of teu-ja, a black, sticky paste made of catechu. This is to preserve their complexion from the cutting wind—so say those who are matter-of-fact, but others tell a different tale. More than a hundred years ago thore lived at Lhasa a great saintnamed Demo Rimpoch'e, who did much for restore the purity of monastic life, which had greatly suffered under the life the saintnamed between the purity of monastic life, which had greatly suffered under the life the saintnamed between the purity of monastic life, which had greatly suffered under the left in the saintnamed to the saintnamed some little distance shead of him, looking neither to the right nor to the left; but the rosy cheeks and bright eyes of the women caused the lamas to forget this law, and great disorders ensued. Demo Rinpoch'e then commanded that no woman should go abroad unless her face was well besmeared with black, and soon this became a fashion throughout the whole country.

Time and again I tried to induce girls in the houses where I was stopping to wash their faces clean, promising them beads and other ornaments; but in vain. They said they washed only when the feasts came around, some four or five times a year,—[Century.

SHATTERED BY SCIENCE.

the past twenty-five years or more, but no conclusion has been reached in their premises.

Field first burst on Kansas City ten years ago. A large dry-goods store had changed hands and the purchasers desired to take possession at once, but with ordinary methods of invoicing, the stock could not have been valued in ten days time. An envoy was sent to Warrensburg, and after much persuasion, induced statistical Reuben to come to this city. The different clerks stood in their departments and called to Field the merchandise and prices in their respective stocks, and Field gave the amount to a rapid accountant, who had difficulty in keeping the pace set by the calculator. When all the items had been made, they were read off to Field as rapidly as the accountant could articulate, and the sum total given by the arithmetician without turning a rule. He had, with the aid of six or eight men, performed in three hours of a Sunday morning the task that the men who assisted him could not have accomplished in ten days.

The foregoing and subsequent statements touching Field's properties may seem to partake somewhat of the properties of the spectrum, but they are true networtheless, and can be attested by thousands of citizens of Jackson County and Western Missouri.

The man can neither write his name nor recognize it after another has produced it. He cannot in figures express the numbers he so readily handles with his mouth, for the Arabic numbers are as meaningless to him as the inscriptions on the pyramids were to Spalding's string of basebal tourists.

"How do you do it?" was the natural inquiry.

"I jist does," was Field's brief remark. Upon being pressed for another and fuller explanation, he said: "Yo' alls begins at the wrong end to figger. begins at the trange and the freak in his law office to attempt to instill a working knowledge of goddiness into him, but without any result that is yet apparent. Mr. Farr speat months in the principles of rotation and point out

"Your superior skill in the mathematical and mechanical arts we are ready to acknowledge," a learned Chinese once said to me, "but you must concede to us the palm of philosophy and letters." This estimate is the prevailing one among educated Chinese as they compare our civilization with their own. It may be modified, and doubtless will be, by further acquaintance; but it shows that they are not imposed on by the glitter of wealth or noise of machinery. The material progress on which we vaunt ourselves weighs light in the scales when poised against moral principles and esthetic culture. A letter of Mr. Yung-wing, the well-known scholar and diplomat, has fallen into my hands, of which the following is an extract. Certain zealous Americans had the doubtful taste to invite his assistance in a "convention for promoting the general adoption of a republican government." He replies: "In view of what the general government has done for the past twenty years in the way of enacting obnoxious laws against the Chinese, and without any provocation flinging insult after insult in the very teeth of the Chinese government, I caunot for the life of me see how republicanism is to become universal, or how the torch of American liberty is to enlighten the Easteru races when they are sint out from its light." I fed confident that this would meet with similar confirmation on other points if we had access to the unpublished reports of the A Chinese View of Us. confirmation on other points if we had access to the unpublished reports of the Chinese mission of inquiry.—[Forum.

The game of billiards was invented about the middle of the sixteenth century by a London pawnbroker named William Kew. In bad, stornly weather, when trade was slack, this pawnbroker was in the habit of taking down the three balls of his sign, and, with a yard-measure, pushing them about the counter, 'billiard' fashion, into boxes fixed at the sides. In time the idea of a fenced table with pockets suggested itself. A black-letter manuscript of 1570 contains the following in reference to the game and its originator: 'Master Will Kew did make un (one) boarde wherebit a game is played with three balls; and all the make un (one) boarde wherebi a game is played with three balls; and all the younge men were greatly recreated therat, chiefly the young clergymen from St. Pawles; hence one of ye strokes was named a 'cannon,' having been by one of ye said clergymen invented. The game is now known by ye name of 'bill-yard,' because William, or Bill Kew, did first play it with a yard-measure. The stick used is now called a 'kue,' or kew, in memory of Mr. Kew, who has been dead some time." It is easy to understand how 'bill-yard' has been modernized into 'billiard;" the transformation of 'kew' into 'cue' is equally apparent.—

bribed this official to let the bride be kidnapped in the night and carried back to Albania. The prefect has been dismissed, and the Skupshtina, moved by the woes of the bridegroom, is urging the government to insist that the Turkish authorities shall restor. Fatima to her husband. The Foreign Minister has promised to do his best, but does not appear to be very sanguine of success.

Tibetan Women.

The women are as tall as the men, much more fully developed, and frequently quite good-looking. But the iron rule of fashion forces them to hide their rosy cheeks under a black coating