

The County Board of Education at Morganton, N. C., has gone back to Webster's old blue back spelling book.

Dudley Buck, the distinguished composer, thinks that the "old New England stock is dying out with consumption, too much pie and too little blood."

A Spanish paper says that during the late elections bribery was more rampant than ever, and that in Vizcaya alone \$600,000 passed from the pockets of candidates to those of voters.

After seeing some of the wonderful shirt waists to be worn by this year's summer girls, the Chicago Record thinks it is safe to prophesy that the havoc wrought among susceptible summer young men is going to be fearful.

It is stated "on indisputable authority" that Maceo, the leader of the insurgent forces in Cuba, has an army of 20,000 men, well fortified in the mountains, and that among them are four companies of women soldiers, who are as effective in the field as any of his troops. It would seem entirely out of place for women to be fighting in the ranks, and to unsex them and cut them off from the sympathy of women elsewhere; but when the fact is learned that they have sought refuge from the brutality of the Spanish soldiers, it entirely changes the aspect of the case, observes the Trenton (N. J.) American. They prefer fighting on the battlefield beside their husbands and brothers to being thrown into the forts at the mercy of Spanish soldiery, and they should be honored for their choice.

Apropos of the discovery in Dr. Jameson's trunk of the secret cipher used by the Uitlanders, James Parn says that the only thoroughly decipherable cipher is also the simplest. It consists of two duplicate books—any books; one in the hands of the transmitter of the cipher and one in those of the recipient. The first letter in the first page is taken for "a," the first letter in the second for "b," and so on till the end of the message is reached; suppose it to consist of twenty-four words, twenty-four pages of the book will thus have been used; for the next message the first letter of the twenty-fifth page will be used for "a," the first letter in the twenty-sixth for "b," and so on. Even the possession of one of these books would not help the would-be decipherer, unless he suspects some virtue in it, but without the book the cipher would remain absolutely inscrutable.

Twenty-five years ago, recalls the New York Observer, at a little inn in Frankfort-on-Main, the treaty of peace was signed between France and Germany which gave the latter power the two fair provinces of Alsace and Lorraine, and filled Frenchmen's hearts with bitterness and hatred which the lapse of these years has done little to quench. The long series of patriotic festivals and anniversaries which began in Germany last July have now been brought to a close, and the press is philosophically occupied in reckoning up both sides of the account—what Germany has gained and what she has lost by that famous treaty. The milliards of war indemnity have been spent long ago in costly developments of her huge army, but the provinces remain, and average German opinion is firm on this point—Alsace and Lorraine must remain an integral part of the empire. There can be no longer any doubt about the attitude of the people in Alsace-Lorraine. While hostily criticizing the German Government and many details of their somewhat strenuous administration, they are gradually accustoming themselves to be German subjects, and to take part with undivided heart in their local affairs. A German official of high standing the other day assured me that French as the language of the common people was rapidly dying out, and was only retained by the upper classes, not, however, from patriotic motives, but as a token of superiority. In the Social Democratic organs the peace of Frankfort is alluded to as the beginning of tremendous evils which will sooner or later envelop Europe in a fearful catastrophe. Vorwärts, the brilliant Democratic paper of Berlin, says that the ink of the treaty was hardly dry before Europe saw the dark cloud of a Franco-Russian alliance on the horizon. It was no bigger than a man's hand, but what is it now? It means the continuance of the Triple Alliance and the existence on a peace footing of nearly ten millions of armed men in Europe. Had Germany magnanimously surrendered those provinces Frenchmen and Germans would be brothers to-day, and Russia instead of being the arbiter of Europe, would be impotent.

NEWS AND NOTES FOR WOMEN.

SHIRT WAISTS.
Shirt waists this season are as varied in style and trimming as many other articles of dress and quilts near perfection, perhaps, as it is possible for them to reach. The prettiest of all are the silk ones, made exactly like the percales, and worn with a black satin stock collar. Embroidered muslin shirts, with white linen collar and cuffs, are very dainty, and those of fine ecru batiste, trimmed with narrow Valenciennes lace or fine embroidery, are useful and cool as well as pretty. The one novelty in cotton waists is seen in the sleeves, where the stripes run around instead of up and down, and Madras with chintz patterns is also used for shirtings. All sorts and kinds are found in the shops, but the tailor-made shirt waist has an aristocratic air and fit about it which is never acquired by those ready-made. The shirt necktie fastened in a bow under the chin has supplanted the long manly tie so much worn last season.

RAGE FOR PERSONAL TRINKETS.
There is a great rage for personal trinkets among Eastern women just now, according to Vogue. The young women, it says, affect gold and silver purses swinging from jeweled or plain chains to match. The purse is suspended from the centre of the corsage, or, when that is not possible, from the belt ribbon or giraffe, the chains festooning the bodice. The monacle and jeweled belt are their particular craze also. Rings are enormous structures. No one wears small diamonds unless by the quantity as a field for other settings. Bracelets are strings of jewels, kept together by the finest of gold chains. In the same way enormous precious stones are suspended from golden threads around the neck. Cameos are still great favorites, especially favored for mountings of salts, daggers, scent bottles, card cases, purses, fans, and parasol mountings. Diamond setting grows more artistic and beautiful from month to month. Turfers, collars, stomachers, slides, buckles, hair ornaments—to say nothing of bracelets, rings, and watches—are visions of beauty and marvels of handicraft.

SUMMER SILKS.
The handsomer qualities of silk, or, to speak more correctly, the more expensive qualities, are being made up for summer outfits. Pout de soie is a fashionable material, and comes in exquisite shades. A maize or corn color is among the novelties, and when trimmed with white lace is exceedingly becoming. It used to be thought that anything approaching yellow should be exclusively worn by brunettes, but never was there a greater mistake, for blondes look equally well in that color. These heavy silks used to be considered suitable only for evening wear, but we have now no fixed laws for material or coloring for different occasions. Gray is lovely in pout de soie, and a robin's-egg blue is the softest and most delicate thing imaginable. Laces, embroideries, mousseline de soie and chifon all combine satisfactorily with these heavy silks, but black lace, unless for older women, should never be chosen to trim them, although there are many gowns that have been lately made up that have fine black lace on the solid colors. White against the soft shading is usually becoming, and gray made up with white and touches of yellow gives a beautifully picturesque effect.—Harper's Bazar.

SMALLER SLEEVES.
By beautifully graduated degrees the voluminous character of woman's dress is losing its aggressive expansion, and lines of beauty and grace which for the past few seasons have been ruthlessly ignored are once more recognized: so artfully have these modifications been introduced, however, that it is only by comparison with what has been that we realize the change already wrought. Scarcely are monstrous balloon sleeves stiffened to insolent unyieldingness; and by gentle roof, here and there, woman is returning to something at least approaching her natural proportions. As they have become smaller sleeves have increased in intricacy of construction, and the most ultra novelties defy both imitation and description; eccentric puffs crop out at the elbows and the tops of the sleeves, where the fullness is manipulated most dexterously to overlapping, flower-like folds. The conservative sleeve is a modified gigot or the mandolin, with the fullness drooping somewhat toward the elbow, and with no more stiffening than that given by a taffeta lining. The lower parts fit more closely than heretofore, and often with thin fabrics and silks the stuff is swathed about the arm in slight fullness like the wrinkles of a mousquetaire glove. Frequently the sleeves of dressy gowns are fitted above the elbow, and the puff is confined to the extreme top. There is a great fancy for extreme length in sleeves, which often extend in turrets and points quite over the hands, being filled out with very full ruffles of soft lace. All these novelties, however, are confined to dressy gowns. The bishop sleeve, also quite the favorite this summer, for blouses and for matinees or tea gowns, should not be used for a tailor gown or for a coat of any sort. This caution is given because any other wise pretty

gowns have been ruined by its use.—Demorest's Magazine.

GOSPEL.
The Massachusetts Eclectic Medical Society has decided to admit women.

Fifty thousand Italian women recently petitioned the Chamber of Deputies to end the Abyssinian war.

Sarah Bernhardt says that wearing diamonds destroys the best expression of the face, dims the brilliancy of the eyes, and makes the teeth look like chalk.

Miss Mary Kingsley is going back to Africa, after the publication of her journal is attended to, to continue studies in fetiches and fishes. She is fond of adventure.

The Czarina of Russia unites in her own person the names of every one of Queen Victoria's daughters as she was christened Alex Victoria Helena Louise Beatrice.

Mrs. Ellen Spencer Mussey, who is making a reputation as a lawyer in Washington, is the widow of the late General R. D. Mussey, who made a creditable record in the Civil War.

Mrs. Sarah Frances Dick has been cashier of the First National Bank of Huntington, Ind., for fifteen years. She was also chosen a director at the time she succeeded her father as cashier in 1881.

Colonel T. W. Higginson has presented to the Boston Public Library his valuable collection of books relating to the history of women. The collection comprises over 1000 volumes, written in many languages.

It is proposed to place a memorial to the late Mrs. Elizabeth Barrett Browning in Kellogg Church, Durham, England, where she was baptized. In Florence a marble slab has been placed upon the house in which she died.

Frau Dr. Jar Emilie Kempin, who began to practice law in Berlin about six months ago, is doing an excellent business, and has lately been appointed official interpreter at the Berlin law courts. Though she is German by birth, yet she studied in New York City.

Mrs. John M. Clay owns the Henry Clay farm in Kentucky. She has such a tender feeling for her stock that she has provided for the future of all the superannuated animals on the place by leaving each \$50 in her will so that they may receive good care till death ensues.

The ex-Emperor Frederick of Germany, in her early married life, embroidered a piece of tapestry on which all her children knelt when confirmed; the late Emperor's coffin rested upon it; the present German Emperor and the Princesses Charlotte, Sophia and Victoria were married standing on it.

The Queen of Italy is no longer young, and she is decidedly stout; but in spite of this she is graceful and has a beautiful carriage of the head and shoulders. Her manner is charming, and the white hand she holds out to a guest is lovely in shape. She is a clever talker in Italian, English, French and German.

Germany is one of the countries where cycling is taken up least by women. There are several large firms for the manufacture of bicycles, yet they are nearly all made for men. This is curious, but, as a rule, German women seldom go in for much out-of-door exercise; they are too distinctly domestic in their habits.

The new woman is not confined to the city. She has appeared in the country, rolled up her sleeves and is teaching the men how to work. In Iowa there are two young girls, Elsie and Libbie Her, who are only fourteen and thirteen years old, but who have already husked and put in the crib 1300 bushels of corn. It's a job that a healthy young man would have to hustle to beat.

FASHION NOTES.
The widow's engagement ring, to be good form, is set with a chrysolite.

The application of hot flannel cloths is said to do wonders with those dark circles that will come under tired eyes.

The fashionable evening slipper is made to match the gown of the same material, and the ugly pointed toe is supplanted by one of more reasonable proportions.

HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS

TREATMENT FOR NEW CHINA.

China as soon as bought should be placed in a vessel of cold water, each piece being separated from another by a little hay. Gradually heat the water till it is nearly boiling, then let it become cold. Take the china from the water and wipe, and it will be found that it will be less liable to crack than if used before being boiled.

TO CAN STRAWBERRIES.

Crush one-fourth of the berries selected for canning, strain out the juice, and put in a preserving kettle. To each pint of juice add one pint of granulated sugar and one-half pint of water, let simmer twenty minutes, and remove the scum. Fill glass cans with the remaining berries and set on racks or rests in a boiler containing sufficient warm water to cover the racks. Fill the cans of fruit with the prepared syrup and screw on the caps loosely. After all the cans have been filled, add hot water to that in the boiler until it comes half-way to the top of the cans, put the lid on the boiler, let the water boil half an hour, then screw the caps tightly on the cans, cover them with a towel to protect them from exposure to cold air, remove from the boiler, and set away to cool. When perfectly cold tighten the caps, if necessary, wrap the cans in paper, and keep in a cool, dry closet. Other berries may be canned in a similar manner, either with or without sugar.

GOOSEBERRIES AND THEIR USES.

The objection to the use of the wild gooseberries is their prickles, but these may be largely removed by rolling the berries, a few at a time, in a fine-meshed wire sieve, the hand protected with a thick towel or old leather glove.

Canned Gooseberries No. 1.—Remove the stems and tops from green gooseberries, wash the fruit in cold water, drain on a towel, fill self-sealing cans, and shake down well. Can boiling water, when cold pour it over the berries, shake the cans to facilitate the escape of air, fill with water to the brim, and at once screw on the covers.

Canned Gooseberries No. 2.—Allow for each quart can a teaspoonful of water and a teaspoonful of granulated sugar. Avoid using sugar which has a bluish tint or the fruit will not keep as well.

Put water and sugar in a granite or porcelain-lined kettle. When a syrup has formed put in the cherries and cook twenty minutes, or until they are soft and broken. Fill cans and screw on the covers. In ten minutes open the cans and fill them to the brim with hot boiling fruit and seal at once. Cans of any kind of fruit if this recipe will be full when cold, and mold will not form on the top.

Gooseberry Jam.—Prepare the berries as directed and weigh them. Allow two and a half pounds of sugar to every three pounds of fruit. Put six tablespoonfuls of water in a kettle, add the berries and cook twenty minutes, stirring occasionally, then add the sugar, cook and stir three-quarters hour. Now test, and if thick and firm, fill jelly glasses. When cold, fit a circle of paraffine paper over the top of each before putting on the cover.

Dried Gooseberries.—Put in a kettle four pounds of gooseberries, scatter over them one pound of sugar, add another four pounds berries, and another pound of sugar. Set them on the stove griddle, and heat them slowly till the skins commence to break, then take off the kettle and set it aside till the fruit is cold. Repeat the process three times, then skim out the berries carefully and spread them on plates. Boil the syrup until it is thick, and drop it from a tablespoon over the fruit, and dry in the sun, covered with mosquito netting. Pack in boxes with oiled paper between the layers.

Gooseberry Soy.—To six pounds of gooseberries add two teaspoonfuls vinegar, three pounds sugar, and boil thirty minutes. Put in pint cans or wide mouthed bottles and seal hot.

Gooseberry Shrub.—Slightly crush the berries in a jar and pour can boiling water to cover. Tie a cloth over the top of the jar and leave twenty-four hours or until cold, then pour off the liquor, heat it and return to the jar. When cold strain, and to each pint add two teaspoonfuls of sugar, boil five minutes, bottle and seal.

Marmalade.—Cook ripe gooseberries until, when cold, a little will run readily from a bottle. A few whole cloves dropped in the mouth of the bottle before sealing will prevent mold from forming. Bottle and seal while hot.

Gooseberry Cheese.—This is used with cake for dessert. Mash and heat ripe gooseberries and rub through a colander, add half the weight of sugar, boil until when cold it can be turned out of cup or glass, and can be cut in slices like cheese. It will need about twenty minutes' cooking.

Spiced Gooseberries.—Boil together until soft in a very little water, then rub them through a colander. To every pound of pulp add the juice of a lemon (or four tablespoonfuls of any sour fruit juice), three-quarters of a pound of granulated sugar, cook ten minutes, with constant stirring, that it may not adhere to kettle and scorch.

Gooseberry Catsup.—Place in a kettle the pulp from four quarts of ripe gooseberries, two pounds brown sugar, one teaspoonful good vinegar, tablespoonful of ground cinnamon, tablespoonful (scant) of ground cloves and half teaspoonful ground pepper. Cook five pounds gooseberry pulp (ripe), four pounds sugar, two teaspoonfuls vinegar, one tablespoonful each of ground cinnamon and allspice. When a little dropped upon a plate is shiny and does not spread, it is done.

The English Government has recently assumed control of all the trunk line or long distance telephone business in the United Kingdom.

THE FIELD OF ADVENTURE.

THRILLING INCIDENTS AND DARING DEEDS ON LAND AND SEA.

On a Locomotive With a Crazy Engineer—A Brave Army Officer—Valorous Surgeons.

"I was twenty-five years ago," an old engineer said to a Washington Star representative, "and I was a fireman on the road in New York State. The engineer I fired for was, or rather had been, one of the best on the road, but he had been turned over and stumped under a locomotive boiler in a wreck and after that he was given a less important train. Not so much because he was any the less good as an engineer, but because officials have an idea that it takes a man's nerve away when a serious accident happens to him. We had a run of about seventy-five miles each way, and on Sundays in summer we carried excursions.

"We had never had any trouble, but for a month before the experience I am telling my engineer had been in a bad temper and acted as ugly as the mischief. I reported the matter to the division superintendent and he told me to stick it out for a month or so longer, as they proposed to release the old man and put him at work in the shops. Two Sundays after that we were returning in the evening about 9 o'clock behind time, owing to delays occasioned by washouts, causing us to run slow and cautious. We had twenty miles to go, and it was over the worst part of the road, and I was watching out of the cab, when all at once the engineer gave a shout and made a grab at me. His eyes were blazing, and I could see in a second that he was either drunk or crazy.

"How I got away from him I don't know, for he did his best to throw me off the cab, but I got away and climbed up on the wood piled up on the tender. He didn't follow, but turned at once to the throttle and threw it wide open. I know what that meant with six coaches full of people behind us and bad track, and the first thing I did was to try to knock him out with a stick of wood. I missed my throw and he came after me with a heavy iron bar, and I went over the rear of the tender on to the platform of the car next to us. By this time we were fairly jumping over the track, and I was so rattled that I didn't know what to do.

"In a second, though, I gathered myself and unoccupied the train from the locomotive, which was not so hard to do, as we were on a down grade and the engine was bouncing so that the coupling pin swung loose at intervals. Then I slipped on the break there and went through the train as fast as I could, telling brakemen and conductor to slow up and do it quick. Our part of the train being stopped we got out to see where the engine had gone, but we could see nothing. Putting a man with a light on the track a mile behind us to stop the next train, the conductor and I went ahead to find what had become of the runaway.

"Two miles away, or two minutes at the rate he was going, we found the engine in the ditch and the engineer buried under it. The engine had struck a soft place and spread the rails—anybody knows what that means—and I think what the result would have been to a train load of passengers going after that engine at sixty miles an hour. It almost made my hair gray to think about it, and when the people on the train heard the story they made up a purse for me that almost made me curl, and I concluded it was an ill wind indeed which blew no good."

A Brave Army Officer.
Charles E. Gatewood was an officer who robbed the Army lately by dying. A Virginian, he went into the Sixth Cavalry from West Point in 1877. In a little while the campaign against the Apaches began, and Gatewood had a chance to show the stuff that was in him. Even the "Paches" respected him, and they called him "White-Man-Who-Does-Not-Lie." He received a certificate of honor "for"—quoting the document—"courage, ability and devotion to duty in a laborious march, followed by the surprise of a camp of hostile Apaches under Chato and Geronimo, the defeat of the Indians, the destruction of their camp, the rescue of five captives and the recovery of a large amount of stolen property; this near the head waters of the Batavia River, in the Sierra Madre Mountains, Sonora, Mexico. This deed was performed in May, 1883.

But Gatewood's great achievement was going alone to Geronimo's fastness and demanding the surrender of that leader among red devils. Gatewood appreciated his reputation among the Apaches enough to believe that if he could get to Geronimo he would be safe and might persuade him to give himself up. But it was a 100 to 1 shot that the first Apache scout who should sight Gatewood would kill him, scalp him, build a fire on his stomach and let fire and buzzards do the rest. Gatewood heard the bullet and saw the Apache. By signs he made the Indian understand that his mission was a peaceful one. Gatewood camped at that place two days to enable the scout to tell Geronimo. Then the chief came and the soldier food and drink. Thus provisioning, Gatewood journeyed nearer and nearer to the Apache's stronghold. Finally a scout came out and asked his mission. Gatewood said boldly that he had come to demand the surrender of Geronimo. Geronimo returned word that Gatewood should remain where he was for a time, and as soon as another white man appeared Gatewood should die. This meant that Gatewood alone would be trusted. Two days after Geronimo notified Gatewood that he could ride to the fortress. Then the parley began, which

resulted in Geronimo's agreement to surrender if the lives of the Indians be spared. The conditions were accepted, and history briefly says that Geronimo surrendered to General Miles.

Valorous Surgeons.

"I saw in Plevna," says Mr. David Christie Murray, in Pearson's Weekly, "one of the most extraordinary bits of human valor I ever beheld, an act that, to my mind, deserves to be recorded over and over again. The hospitals were in an absolutely unspeakable condition. There were men on the beds, under the beds and between the beds. Cholera, and every imaginable kind of horror. The hospital service was altogether incomplete.

"When our party reached the town, the one young Irish doctor who had charge of the hospital was without a drop of chloroform, without a surgical instrument which would do its duty, without an inch of charcoal or an inch of bandage. He was a young fellow of extraordinary valor, as he proved over and over again in the course of the campaign, but when we reached him he was in such a state of despair that he was almost on the verge of suicide.

"The chief surgeon of our party was Dr. McKellar, now second in command at St. Thomas's Hospital, London. One day whilst the fight was going on in the trenches, he removed twenty-five limbs. The state of the hospital made it impossible to operate indoors, and he had set up a rough operating table under the shadow of a mud wall which surrounded the hospital square, and carried on his work there. The operations were hastily performed, and he was blood from head to heel, like a butcher.

"I was walking up and down the square with a companion, when a siege shell struck the wall and knocked a hole in it, through which a hansom cab might have been driven. It struck within a dozen yards of McKellar, who was at that instant in the act of tying up an artery. When the dislodged fragments had all pattered to the ground I ran toward him from the other side of the square. He thrust his blood stained hands through his gray hair, and said, quietly: 'That was a near shave; bring the next man.'

"I asked him why he had not dropped to avoid the explosion, for he must have heard the shell coming. He answered quite simply that, if he had left the man for an instant, his life would have been lost."

A Hero Among Workmen.
A few years ago two men were at work upon a telegraph pole standing many feet above a line of railway. A wire had broken and they were repairing the damage. The wind blew fiercely from the east, and the pole rocked to and fro. Suddenly a strong gust caused one of the men to turn in his position. In doing so he pushed his companion, who, taken unawares, fell backward. He clutched at his mate, and both tumbled over among the wires.

For a moment the two men hung without speaking a word. Then one of them said:

"Bill, I can't reach the post, and I'm afraid if I move the wires will break."

As he spoke a wire did break. Both men, hanging together, were in danger of being precipitated to the track below.

"Well, mate," said Bill, "one of us has got to drop. It's a big drop to make, but as you're married and have three children, I don't see why I should stay here."

"No, don't do that, Bill; you'll get killed, surely. Let's hang on a little longer."

Another wire broke. One more might drop them both. Bill made up his mind.

"Goodbye, mate," he said to the other.

"Goodbye," answered his companion, the tears running out of his eyes.

Bill dropped. It was a fall of forty feet. He fell among some rough stumps of bushes and rolled down an embankment. Then he rose, and called up to his companion:

"I'm all right, mate! I'm going for help."

The station was half a mile distant. When the poor fellow reached it and had told his story, he fainted away. The doctor found that he had broken both his arms and one of his ribs; but his brave action had very likely saved his companion's life—Pearson's Weekly.

Artillery for Hungary.
The negotiations now proceeding between the Cabinets of Hungary and Austria looking toward a renewal of the dualistic system of 1867 are complicated by a demand of the Hungarian Government for the establishment of an artillery corps. The Hungarian militia, or hencve, which has been always looked upon as animated by National sentiments, is still without any regular corps of artillery; and consequently the empire is in this line of armament behind other European Nations. Russia has 4200 guns; France, 3900; Germany, 3700, and Austria-Hungary, only 1770, hardly more than Italy, which had 1620 guns before the Abyssinian disasters, during which she lost many pieces of artillery. The Minister of War of the Austrian Empire is now contemplating the increase of the army from 1,880,000 men to 2,400,000, through modifications of military service analogous to those introduced in France and Germany. That will make necessary an increase of artillery, and the Hungarian huncve seems justified in demanding the establishment of an artillery corps, though the Vienna Government would prefer not to increase the strength of the Magyar militia.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

Ramic cloth is used as machine belting.

A psychological laboratory is to be established in the University of California.

Professor Wiggins says that the electric wires which are strung overhead are the causes of tornadoes.

A balloon sent up from Paris attained a height of 15,000 metres, or about nine and a half miles, before it came down near Cambrai.

The telephone ear has developed itself. It is a greater sensitiveness of the left ear from much using of the telephone receiver with it.

The graduates of the Atlanta (Ga.) University are to make an inquiry into the causes of the excessive mortality among colored people in cities.

A Russian medical man has noticed that the human eye naturally winks three or four times less often when reading by electricity light than when a candle is used.

Professor Hobra, of Vienna, asserts that the sun does not produce freckles. They never appear, he says, in children under the age of six or eight years, whether exposed to the sun or not.

The Italian professor, Angelo Celli, declared at the international congress of hygiene, in London, that Italy was centuries behind the English standard in all that safeguards the public health.

It is stated that the workers in the acid rooms of the sulphide pulp works soon notice that their beards and hair becomes very black, and remain so for several weeks. At the same time they are apt to become bald.

An acute musical ear will detect so slight a difference in tone between two notes as the one-sixth of a semitone. This means that in the eleven octaves that the human ear compasses there would be at least some 8000 or 9000 consciously different notes.

The owl has no motion in the eye, the globe of which is immovably fixed in its socket by a strong, elastic, hard, cartilaginous case; but, in order to compensate for the absence of motion in the eye, the owl is able to turn its head round in almost a circle without moving its body.

The physician and hygienist Sir B. W. Richardson recently expressed his decided opinion that if men and women in general properly understood and steadily obeyed the laws of their being—physical, intellectual and moral—seventy per cent. of them would live to 110.

Sir John Lubbock says that the housefly, which produces the sound F, vibrates its wings 20,100 times a minute, or 335 a second; and the bee, which makes the sound of A as many as 26,000, or over 430 a second. On the contrary, a tired bee hums on E, and vibrates its wings only 309 times a minute.

An Ape's Strategy for a Meal.
In the Transvaal some of the fruit gardens are much exposed to the ravages of large syncephalic apes, and a good guard has to be kept, or the results of long labor would be lost. In some of those gardens grow certain shrubs which are much affected by wasps, the insects liking to attach thereto their nests. These wasps, though small, have a very venomous sting. Baboons have often been noticed eyeing with envious glances the fast ripening fruit in one certain garden, but feared to gather for fear of attracting the assaults of wasps. One morning the farmer heard terrible cries, and with the aid of a good field glass he witnessed the following tragedy: A large, venerable baboon, chief of the band, was catching the younger apes and pitching them into the shrubs whereon hung the wasps' nests. This he repeated again and again, in spite of the most piteous cries from his victims. Of course the wasps assumed the defensive in swarms. During this part of the performance the old brute quietly fed on the fruit, deigning occasionally to throw fragments remains to some female and young baboons a little further off.—Westminster Budget.

The King California Gave Pierce.
One of the most curious as well as most valuable of American rings was presented to President Pierce in 1852 by the citizens of California. It is of massive gold, weighing upward of a pound; the circular portion is cut into squares, which are embellished with beautifully executed designs, the entire group presenting a pictorial history of California. The seal of the ring is really a lid, which swings upon a hinge, and is covered with the arms of the State of California, surmounted by the Stars and Stripes. Underneath is a square box divided by bars of gold into nine separate compartments, each containing a pure specimen of the varieties of ore found in the country. On the inside is the following inscription: "Presented to Franklin Pierce, the fourteenth President of the United States."

Uses for Ozone.
Ozone is becoming an important industrial agent. It artificially agates liquor, removes the effect of oily beans in coffee and improves tobacco. In its late application to the rapid seasoning of wood for sounding-boards and musical instruments it increases the resistance of the wood to temperature and moisture and adds to its acoustic qualities. It thickens linseed oil for linoleum in a few days, whereas the old method of oxidation often took several months. It bleaches linen in less than a third of the time required by sunlight. It is also valuable in chemical and technical processes, especially in purifying starch derivatives from undesirable color, odor and taste.