The subsistence department, of the United States Army, has received from the War Department permission to issue a new cook book. It is interesting to note that an appropriation has been made for printing several thousands of these books for the use of the militia. Brigadier-General Greely is to have charge of distributing them to the militia.

A recent bulletin of the census bur-eau gives information as to the extent au gives information as to the extent of farm mortgages in the various sections of the country. It shows, what will surprise most people, that farms in New York, New Jersey, and most of the other Eastern States, are more heavily mortgaged than those in the West and South, the great agricultural regions of the United States. The farms in New York, for instance, are mortgaged to forty-three per cent. of the value, while those of Kansas are mortgaged only thirty-five per cent. The New Jersey farms are mortgaged to fifty per cent. of what they are worth as compared with only thirty-two per cent. on the farms of Nebraska.

Much opposition is being developed in Pennsylvania to the attempt to tax life insurance policies. It is the opin ion of the Audutor-General that a life insurance policy is a form of investment within the meaning of the act of the Assembly, and he has directed the commissioness of the several counties to require policy holders to make a personal return of such policies for the purposes of taxation. The insurance companies, as well as the policy holders, are interested, as a tax upon policies might tend to diminish their number. Lawyers differ on the question. Some hold that a paid-up-policy, payable at death, or a policy payable at the expiration of a fixed term of years, is an investment. But the general opinion is that a policy the premiums on which continue during life is not an investment within the meaning of the tax law. The Attorney-General is to be asked to pass upon the question.

The Atlanta (Ga.) Constitution says:

The question of good roads is one which has frequently been agitted, but which has frequently been agitted but which h Much opposition is being developed

but which has failed as yet to receive that deliberate consideration which its real importance demands. In a recent article published in the Methodist Review, Professor H. H. Stone, of Emory College, who has given the subject careful thought, states that good roads, according to the standard which prevails in other countries, are absolutely unknown in the State of Georgia. Such a condition as even out best roads present would not be tolerated for a moment in Belgium, France or Germany, where the roads are so admirably constructed as toffer in many cases superior advantaxes to the railroads. Professor Stone deplores the spirit of indifference which exists in this and other States in regard to the matter of good roads, and bespeaks a revival of interest on the part of those who have ceased to agitate the question. Every one should read Professor Stone, about the allow of the paper, which contains a number of pertinent and valuable suggestions and is worthy of thoughtful consideration, is worthy of thoughtful consideration, is worthy of thoughtful consideration is worthy of thoughtful consideration, and whenever he can be paper, which contains a number of pertinent and valuable suggestions and is worthy of thoughtful consideration as yet performed all of Gioson's feats easily, he put the bar into water. He also shouldered two barread sold secone rose and flate at low water. He also shouldered two barread sold secone across mud flats at low water. He also shouldered two barreads of flour at none—one one cach shoulder—and hauled up the anchor of a good-sized schooner by pulling in the cable hand-over-hand without is so much as touching the windlass. In the about the sold hand-over-hand without is so much as touching the windlass. In the about the sold hand-over-hand without is so much as touching the windlass. In the about the sold hand-over-hand without is so much as touching the windlass. In the about the sold hand-over-hand windlass to four the last of flour the about the sold hand-over-hand windlass. In the sold

Though a submarine cable underneath the Atlantic Ocean has long been in practical operation science has not as yet performed that difficult feat with reference to the wider and deeper waters of the Pacific. But little over a quarter of a century ago the North American continent began to flirt with Europe over the Atlantic cable. The messages which thus crossed and recrossed between the two hemispheres buzzed a distance of 2700 miles. Since the achievement of that master stroke of genius was consummated in 1839 repeated enterprises have been formed for the purpose of spanning the Pacific Ocean. Nothing, however, has yet been accomplished. Nevertheless, within the last two years the hope of realizing this long cherished dream has commenced to revice. Last year the Pacific Cable Company was organized in New York City, while the British Colonial Telegraph Company has sprung into existence within the last few months. The former proposes to lay a cable direct to Yokohama, Japan, by way of the Sandwich Islands, the estimated cost of which is somewhere in the neighborhood of \$10,000,000. The British company is figuring on a cable from Vanconver's Island to Melbourne by the way of the Fiji Islands. One reason why it is more difficult to lay a cable across the Pacific Ocean than across the Atlantic is due to the much greater depth of the former. The Atlantic Ocean ranges in depth to 12,000 to 15,000 feet, while that of the Pacific is from 18,000 to 24,000 feet. Some day, however, the difficult feat will be achieved. Mighty indeed are the mire of the former for the mire of the the mire of the former for the mire of the forme Some day, however, the difficult feat will be achieved. Mighty indeed are the miracles which science performs,

# A MODERN SAMSON.

CY PHIPPS, THE MAINE GIANT, AND HIS FEATS OF MUSCLE.

Lifted and Moved a House, One End at a Time-Bent a 200-Pound Iron Bar to a V and Made All Bangor Stare,

VERYBODY in Eastern Maine has heard of Cy Phipps, the giant of Penobscot County and the most inveterate wag of his age. Cy was born out here at Goodale's Corner, on the side hill overlooking Dedham, about fifty years ago, saws the Lewiston Journal.

Somewhere about the time that old John Brown was getting hanged down in Virginia, Cy, then a lad getting on toward voting age, bought a dog that was big and good natured enough to allow himself to be harnessed to carts and sleds, attached to which he made long journeys, haaling his master to allow himself to be harnessed to carts and sleds, attached to which he made long journeys, haaling his master to allow himself to be harnessed to carts and sleds, attached to which he made long journeys, haaling his master to alones or other places of amusement. Hauling bees were all the rage then, and no man thought of building a new house when he could find an old one for sale. As soon as the purchase was made the house was placed on two stout logs called "shoes," and, the farmers would come for miles with their oxen to help at the moving. One afternoon Cy was riding down a long hill behind his dog when he met a house moving.

"Get out of the road and let me

alone.

About two years ago, when he was happy and prosperous and had every chance of reaching a ripe old age in Lynn he suddenly threw up his job and went to Danvers, where they put him in the violent ward of the insane asylum. He is there to-day and is glad to see all those who call on him. He is ward master at a salary of \$1200 a year.

# How Railroads Originated.

How Railroads Originated.

The origin of railways, says Cassell's Saturday Journal, has been traced to a contrivance for simplifying the transit of coal from the English mines to the places of shipment. The invention consisted of a double parallel line of wooden beams or trams, fixed to the ground and furnished with flanges to prevent the wheels of the ears from slipping aside. The motive power was furnished by horses. The date at which these roads were first used is set down as between 1602 and 1649. In 1700 long slips of iron were placed on the wooden beams in order to prevent the excessive wear and tear.

### CURIOUS FACTS.

CURIOUS FACTS.

In Spanish obituary notices the cause of death is always given.

The railways of the world carry over 40,000,000 passengers weekly.

The Soar family, of Ambaston, Derbyshire, England, have a curious heirloom in the shape of a loaf of bread which is over 600 years old.

Georgia has an "earthquake well." It suddenly appeared on the night of the Charleston (S. C.) earthquade, and is said to be unfathomable.

The flying frog of Surnim is fourteen inches in length and has side membranes like a flying squirrel. He can leap entirely across large rivers.

A radish eighteen inches in length has been grown near Weiden, Germany, which is said to be in the exact form of a baby, even to the fingers and toes.

The Government of Hawaii is in

form of a baby, even to the fingers and toes.

The Government of Hawaii is in the market in Southern California for 10,000 horned toads, by means of which it is hoped to abate the plague of bugs which are working destruction on the islands.

John Vince, of Nicholasville, Ky., has two hungry calves. By accident they became imprisoned in aroad culvert, and stayed sixten days. When taken out they were alive, but too weak to bawl much.

Mrs. Thomas Roy, of Ottawa, Can-

weak to bawl much.

Mrs. Thomas Roy, of Ottawa, Canada, recently died, leaving a will requiring her daughter to marry within twenty-four hours or forfeit a considerable fortune. The young woman fulfilled the condition and gained the property.

property.

Fish stories among the French Canadians are not confined to the size of the extch. A fisherman on Le Soreiois River reports that he saw floating down on the current when he was on his way home a bank of grasshoppers a foot deep.

a foot deep.

A new record for pigeon flying has been established by a Philadelphia cote. The birds were liberated from Gainesyille, Ga., and flew a distance of 614.16 miles. The first bird accomplished the distance in thirteen hours and two minutes.

and two minutes.

A fourteen-year-old boy of Blue Hill, Me., committed suicide by placing the butt of a gun against a tree, surrounding the barrel with a pile of stones, running a cord from the trigger around a stake and back to the muzzle, lying down, and after blind-folding himself pulling the string.

They do things complet engages

They do things somewhat cariously in the courts of the Isle of Man. On the conclusion recently of a day's hearing in a right-of-way case, one of the jurors announced that he had purchased a ticket for America, and would not return for some months. The further hearing of the case was postponed until his return.

## Are Life Belts Useless?

Are Life Belts Useless?

The Saturday Review, in commenting on the loss of the steamship Drummond Castle off the coast of France, says: But the really important point about the accident has not, so far as we know, been dwelt upon anywhere. It is this: All the bodies that have been recovered from the sea up till now have been found equipped with life belts, and life belts of the most modern type. One of the survivors of the catastrophe related the other day to an interviewer that when he first found himself struggling in the water he found spots of light on the sea all around him. He could not understand it at first, but soon remembered that the life belts were of a special kind, which, as soon as they touched the water, emitted a light—of so modern a type were they. And yet only three men survived the wreek. The question naturally arises, Of what use are the life belts if they do not help to save life? A thorough investigation of the subject is needed, and if modern life belts are useless they should at once be superseded by a more serviceable appliance.

lately necessary:—American Kitchen in Magazine.

Bake d Apple Jelly—Fill a two quarte granted to the would the not understand the life from the sell styre of the color of the child of the water, closely overed. We have conserved in the fraw this his lateral by the wook and the water of the water, considered and stow until tenders of the water of the water of the water, of the water of the conditions on other sell of the water of the conditions on other sell of the water of the conditions on other sell of the water of the conditions on other sell of the water of the conditions of cold water and stow until tender; idea of cold w

## HOUSEHOLD AFFAIRS

SCIENCE OF BOILING FOTATOES.

In a bulletin issued by Professor Snyder, of the Minnesota Agricultural College, he makes a point of interest to the housewife. He shows that when potatoes are peeled and started boiling in cold water there is a loss of eighty per cent. of the total albumen, and where they are not peeled and are started in hot water this loss is reduced to two per cent. A bushel of potatoes, weighing sixty pounds, contain about two pounds of total nitrogenous compounds. When improperly cooked one-half of a pound is lost, containing six-tenths of a pound of the most valuable proteids. It requires all of the protein from nearly two pounds of round beefsteak to replace the loss of protein from improperly boiling a bushel of potatoes.

—New Orleans Picayune.



THE BANGLE HAS REAPPEARED

One of the features of this year's fashion in jewelry is that the bargle has reappeared. But the new bangle is very different from the old. It came into fashion along with the elbow sleeve now so much in vogue, and is a flexible affair, comfortable to the arm and entirely unlike the stiff bangle of a few years ago. There are on view a variety of these new bangles. They consist of a narrow flexible gold band, set with jewels, alternating with one another. Six to eight gems are used, and the effect is very beautiful.

register of the control of the contr

GOSSIP.

The Countess of Warwick has parted with over 3000 acres of her landed property, including Newnham Hail and fifteen large farms.

Mrs. Mary Putnam Sharpe, of Pomiret, Conn., now eighty-four years of age, is the only surviving great-grandlaughter of General Israel Putnam.

nam.

The widowed Queen of Naples is the only female Knight of the Russian Order of St. George, an honor conferred solely for exceptional gallantry under fire.

The first petition for suffrage in England was signed in 1867 by 1499 women. The appeal handed in to

The first woman drummer to visit Lewiston, Me., aroused a good deal of interest among the merchants, as she went about selling gloves in the men's furnishing stores.

furnishing stores.

A ministure of the young Duches of Martborough has recently been painted by Miss Kussner. The Duke has ordered two copies of the portrait, the total cost being some \$1500.

Mrs. Blaine has aged greatly since she left Bar Harbor at the close of last season. Mrs. Damrosch will make her home with her mother at Stanwood, and will soon be joined by Mr. Damrosch.

season. Mrs. Damrosch will make her home with her mother at Stanwood, and will soon be joined by Mr. Damrosch.

Mrs. Elizabeth Seward is the proprietor and editor of the Stillwater (Minn.) Messenger. She is also a bill poster, and is said to be the only woman in the country who follows that occupation.

Miss Eliza Sanford, daughter of a Revolutionary soldier, has been granted a pension by the Government. At the recent celebration of Bunker Hill day in New Jersey she was a person of great interest.

The young Duchess of Marlborough refuses to adopt the style of the very low gowns which are worn at fashionable dinners in England, for the reason that her throat is long and looks much better dressed in white ribbons. Some time ago the Supreme Court of Ohio decided that Miss Nellie G. Robinson, a lawyer of Cincinnati, could not be appointed a notary public. She has now applied to the Supreme Court of the United States for a decision on the question, and the case will be considered by Justice Harlan.

A Boston young woman journeying to Northern Vermont on horseback, with her escort, said in Burlington, where they put up for rest, that she used a bicycle for short trips near home, but preferred a horse when going into a new country, as it gave much better opportunity to enjoy landscape and study nature.

Dr. Grace N. Kimball, of Bangor, Me., who is now in charge of the relief work in Armenia, and has gained the honorary title of "the heroine of Van," has been chosen assistant physician of Vassar College, and will enter upon her duties in January. The chief physician of Vassar is Dr. Elizabeth Burr Thelburg, elso of Bangor.

crepes, all of them soft and "drapery" like, are to be extensively worn.

Green, bottle green, hunter's green and even olive green is to be one of the two favorite colors this year. It shares the honors with plum color, which is an evolution from the eminence and magenta of past years.

The wide godet skirt is fast disappearing, especially for out-door wear, to make way for the becoming jupe gathered or plaited from the hips to the back, but the principal change for the better is that all skirts are cut of a more moderate width.

White and cream laces and trimmings are used in the greatest profusion. There is one advantage in the employment of these garnitures. One can wear almost any snade or color if it is plentifully decorated with either white or cream-colored thin fabries, especially lace and chiffor.

it is plentifully decorated with either white or cream-colored thin fabrics, especially lace and chiffon.

It is reported in Nature that a substance harder than the diamond has been made by M. Moissan, the distinguished French chemist, by heating ly high temperature in the electric furnace devised by him. The new compound is not unlike graphite in appearance, and it may supersede diamonds in borng rocks, cutting glass and other industrial purposes, as it can be produced in pieces of any required size. It is said to cut diamonds without difficulty.

Los Angeles, Cal., has a Landmant Club, an organization pressure.

THE PRIDE OF THE COUNTRY SIDE

Oh! Phyllis is surpassing fair,
I know a maid that's fairer;
Her beauty is beyond compare—
No beauty could be rarer;
She scorneth fichle fashion's guide,
And russet is her gown—
Yet she's the pride of the country side,
And the envy of the town!
She is a queen we all declare,
Though no crown she possesses,
Beyond a wealth of rich brown hair,
That hangs in dainty tresses;
Her matchless eyes have long outvied
The gems in monarch's crown—
And she's the pride of the country side
And the envy of the town!

Her form is full of fairy grace,
Her voice is music mellow,
And, oh! the bloom upon her face
Is the red rose's fellow:
And! he who wins her for his bride
Wins more than wealth, renown—
For she's the pride of the country side
And the envy of the town!
—F. J. Cox, in Chambers's Journal.

### HUMOR OF THE DAY.

When men are not regretting that life is so short they are doing something to kill time.—Atchison Globe.

"Why does Stimson always carry his unbrella closed when it rains?" "He is afraid the owner may recognize it."—Detroit Free Press.

Lord Nocount (proudly)—"I can trace my descent from William the Conqueror." Cynicus—"You have been a long time on the downward path."—Trath.

"Does your family sympathize with

been a long time on the downward path."—Truth.

"Does your family sympathize with you when you have insomnia?" "Yes. When I can't sleep I sit up all night and practice on my accordion."—Chicago Record.

"Alas! father, I have lost my heart," wailed the heroine. The villain scowled. "Careless girl!" he exclaimed between his clinched teeth.—Philadelphia Record.

For Beginners: Inventor—"I'm working on a cyclometer." Friend—"What is the special feature?" Inventor—"I't registers the number of times you fall."—Puck.

"Have you read that article 'How to Tell a Bad Egg?" "No, I haven't; but my advice would be if you have anything important to tell a bad egg, why, break it gently."—Household Words.

"This blackberry pie isn't nearly so

Words.

"This blackberry pie isn't nearly so good as those mother used to make."
"No; I told your mother this morning when she made it that you would be sure to find fault with it."—Chicago Record.

Record.

Miss Oldfriend—"I declare I begin to feel that I'm growing old. It's really unpleasant." Miss Becky Sharpe—"Yes, dear, it must be especially so for one who has been young so long!"—Standard.

At the Camping Party: The Crank—"This is the last time I'll ever camp out!" The Enthusiast—"Well, you shouldn't camp out, unless you can enjoy yourself without being comfortable."—Puck.

"Are you taking swimming lessons.

"This is the list time I'll ever campoing stuffs bid fair to have this season for their own. Crepe de chine is to be worn not only by "buds" but by women of all ages.

Cashmere comes back again with a flourish of trumpets. It is woven with a silk woof, and is exquisitely soft and shimmering. It will be used extensively for indoor gowns.

Cravenette grows in favor for cycling and utility costumes generally. It is waterproof and at the same time devoid of the unpleasant rubber odor of most waterproof fabries.

Silk dresses are trimmed with alternate ruffles of chiffon and the silk. This is very pretty in plain silk, and when the skirt is made this way, be boduce is covered with chiffon and lace.

Now, when so many girls at the seasihor eare bewalling the fact that their

when the skirt is made this way, the bodne is covered with chiffon and lace.

Now, when so many girls at the seashore are bewalling the fact that their ostrich feathers are straught, tis of value to know that whalebone will curl them more successfully than 3cissors.

A new material, which has the shimmering effect most sought for at present, is moire velours. Goffered oriental satin, crinkled silks and silk crepes, all of them soft and "drapery" like, are to be extensively worn.

Green, bottle green, hunter's green and even olive green is to be one of the two favorite colors this year. It it shares the honors with plum color, which is an evolution from the eminance and magenta of past years.

The wide godet skirt is fast disappearing, especially for out-door wear, to make way for the becoming jupe gathered or plaited from the hips to for the better is that all skirts are out of a more moderate width.

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Helen—"Oh, yes; he always thought the world of me. Before we were the world of me. Before we were the world of me. Before we were the world of me. Before

can be produced in pieces of any required size. It is said to cut diamonds without difficulty.

Los Angeles, Cal., has a Landmarks Club, an organization formed for the preservation and restoration of the old mission buildings and other-relies as monuments and landmarks.