There are fewer Roman Catholics, proportionately, in Sweden than in any other European country-only 810 out of a population of 4,744,000.

There are about 2000 persons in France who are set down as Anarch-ists, and are under the constant watch of the police of the various European countries.

Officers in the Bayarian army hence forth will not have to fight duels when challenged if they are opposed to the practice. A great relief, indeed; but how in the world are they to satisfy their "honor?" marvels the New Or leans Picayune.

A Spanish matador recently wrote to a London paper to protest against the English habit of denouncing bull fights as cruel. He said the bulls wer killed in a humane manuer, always and as for the horses, it was a work o compassion to put an end to their ex istence!

The State of Washington is en gaged in the task of reclaiming 1,000,000 acres of desert land within the State limits. In order to render the soil fertile it will be subjected to a thorough process of irrigation. For this purpose a canal 150 miles in length will be constructed within the next few months. Only a part of this immense tract will be irrigated at once and if the plan succeeds, as it no doubt will, it can be very easily ex At present the land is usetended. less, but when fertilized it will sup port something like 8500 families.

A curious parallel can be instituted A curious parallel can be instituted between the President-elect and his predecessor, James K. Polk, notes Moses P. Handy in the New York Muil and Express. McKinley and Polk both sprang from the domination Scotch-Irish race; they both served in their State Legislatures; both en tered Congress young, Polk at thirty, McKinley at thirty-four; both served the same length of time, fourteer years, and they were both Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, and shaped the revenue policy of their time. Polk became Speaker of the House, and McKinley barely missed it. After retiring from Congress, each became Governor of his State, and thus they had precisely the same legislative and executive experience before being elected to the Presidency

Sixteen years have elapsed since the famous Lord Beaconsfield passed from the scenes of his earthly career, and yet the great English statesman is set in without a biography. In view of the excellent position which Lord Bea-sonsfield occupied for so many years as Prime Minister of the gradest Nation on earth, it is strange that no one has arisen from among the num-ber of his surviving associates to perform this service to his memory. Aside from doing bonor to the illus-trious dead, however, it seems that n life of the great leader should be written as a contribution to the his-tory of England. Unless the volume makes its appearance soon many in-teresting incidents which ought to be incorporated in the story of his life will be overlooked and for-gotten. Had d'Israeli been an American, observes the Atlanta Constitution, there would doubtless be in existence at this time no less than a dozen biographics of him, and the fact that England has waited so long to put the narrative of his career into tangible. form emphasizes a marked difference between the two countries.

The whale has been described as a large ambiguous animal with no hair all over it; but, according to report, the remains of one have been discov crep in the ice fields of Alaska which show traces of pubescence as copious as those displayed by the rolics of the Siberian mammoth sometimes found inclosed in icebergs, which have preserved them from primeval ages. The story lacks confirmation, like the one recently put about that a North Pa-sific whale had swallowed Captain Warren, of Southampton, Long Island, promptly rejected in view of the registered official measurement of the average catacean gullet, showing that it was of insufficient calibre to take in amiable seamen and barely large enough to admit his compass and The anatomy of the ani mal in Bibical times, according to the record, gave it an ampler receptivity but modern sentiment is opposed to the idea of making the case of Jonah the testimony a precedent, as

science is opposed to giving the whale a fur overcoat. Both narrations are probably fanciful, belonging in the category of ordinary fish stories, which intended to amuse rather than convince. Only marines believe them, even when they are decked out in all the signs of plausibility, as these can in no wise said to be.

WINTER JOYS. WINTER JOYS. * When the window pane is crusted With a faryland of snow, And the wizard Of the blizzard Has shut off his bitingblow. When the morning's gold has busted Like a billow on the swamp, From my cozy, Rosy, posy Nest I dy with Persian pomp. Oh, my spirit's bright and sunny. And loy's echoes in me wake, When I pour the shining heney On the

On the Buckwheat cake.

Buckwhent enco. Oh, the frosty air is bitter, And the pool'e's evoluits shino, And the obleken, Zero-stricken, Noosts upon the hots's spine. Oh, the snowdrifts gleam and glitter With a gleaminr, glaring glitt, And the sparrow, To his marrow, By old Boreas is hit, Yet I listen to him chirrup In the bramble and the brake While I pour the maple syrup On the

On the Buckwheat cake.

Buckwheat cake, Oh, I watsh the dumpy possum, As ho ways his tail in glee, While he's rooting, Or a-secoting, To escape the frienssee. With his nose a frozen blossom Doth the small boy now appear At the gateway, And he straightway Mouls of snow the deadly sphere, And I see the man who passes On his ear that anowball take, While I pour the rich molasses On the On the Buckwhoat cake, -R. K. Munkittrick, in New York Journal-

THE BANK MYSTERY.

UDGE, I've com

UDGE, I've come to ask if you'll let no one on fearth don't know but me; 'bout that bound the server. "Yee, than k 'bout that bound the server. "Yee, than k 'you, I will sit down. A fine fire feels good on a that do I know about the bank mystery? Land sakes, Judge, time they opened the bank that day ten years ago and found the bank that day ten years ago and found the bank that day ten years ago and found the bank that day ten years ago and found the bank that hords in and the safe blowed up and not a dollar gone, I could have told it all. The people of Tiverton sin't done talking and wondering 'bout it yet, and there ain't never been no one livin'as could tell what it all meant but me.

but me. "I bought some papers-here they

Thred up. I thought then I was all right went on.
"At hast we had it all ready, and "At hast we had it all ready, and then-money enough of it was second 'om in the rostaurant. I 'spicioned they weren't here for no you can realize the excitement and good and it inset took my breath the strain of such a moment. To know a took my breath the strain of such a moment. To know too, and nothin' wouldn't do but I there, ready, and then to have to year. They knowed in good and to be the strain of such a moment. To know they knowed ime quick concept, it is all there, ready, and then to have to year to to wait! It's easier walkin' over read was the very man hot coals. It's all right to go on and they wanted, I could help 'em and I was bount to 'em. 'Twas the biggest thing they'd undertaken yet; the shivers.
Then they'd come on to examine the 'Presently Jim eaught my arm.

situation, knowing that Mr. Durkee, the new mill owner, would make a big payment soon and the money for it would be in the bank here. If there warn't anything else, that would be abig haul, a haul worth havin,' and me bein' here deeided 'em. "I do think the devil brought all his friends and relations with him that night to tempt me. If orgot how to go to sleep, and just couldn't stay in bed. I wonder I warn't in tatters by mornin' with the devil tuggin' at me as he did and tryin' to keep me out of the 'room where my sleepin' children lay. "Yer see, them bank people come over to my place for lunch best part of the time, and they all knowed my little people, and the mill people knowed 'em too. My oldest boy worked in the mill and they'd been as kind as could be when he's sich. Christ-

of the time, and they all knowed in many difference of the mark of the second of the mark of the second of the world's throw him. "It here warn ta bank of the second is row. "The second is row the bank path terms of the second is row the bank path terms of the second is row the bank path terms of the second is row the bank path terms of the second is row the bank path terms of the second is row the bank path terms of the second is row the bank path terms of the second is row the bank path terms of the second is row the bank path terms of the second is row the bank path terms of the second is row the bank path terms of the second is row the bank parent of the second terms of the bank was round to start a new failty apper. I made is mapped on the row the bank mark the terms of the second is row the bank mark the start a new failty apper. I made is mapped on the row the bank mark the terms of the second is row the bank mark the start a new fail and the second the row they was to loosen up the boards of the fore for the robbery. I had it and mapped on the row the the great row the was to loosen up the boards of the fore for the robbery. I had it and the lask the stern now. "Bay you hear that storm now Judge? Twas like that ten years ago tor ight he did so, seen 'did no the way tore seen 'em so excited. Nothin' hadn't gone wrong and nothis' could a' now. "We had sentinels stationed row they was to loosen up the boards the mark the setting was readed. "Bay you hear that storm now the setting was readed his the ten yars setter since is the indight for such there and the citle setting was readed the start, the way the start an we the watchman went down cell to see to his fres. I knowed the time of night he did so, seen 'his world the window of the boark, 'but the start an wear the and setty below the start an weart the and were weart indo to seen the start and were weart the and and get the dor road yo the window of the boark, 'but the start an weart the did so, seen 'his you the start an oweart the boark weart the and

ye, and there aim't never been no one think ould a masonry below us, 'twarn't in the masonry below

"Say, I thought I heard voices, did yon?'he whispered.
 "The men upstairs, I said.
 "Sounded down here. Havejyour pistol ready.'
 "I took my lantern and went round the vault again earefully, and then held it up to examine the walls. Then I shook my head. There warr's no way we could hear no one.
 "It's the queerest place I ever was in, 'said Jim, 'and, by Jove, I'll bog glad, when we are out of it. Wby don't that signal come? Suppose there's any hitch? I swear I hear voices agun.'

there's any hitch? I swear I hear voices again." 'Just then come the signal and Jim begun to apply the dynamite; but his hands trembled so and his oyes looked so wild and excited his own wife wouldn't know him. " 'The money, the money,'he whis-pered, 'we must have it now.' ''We got out of the way just in time and then out came the door. " 'the inside door, quick,' said Jim, but the explosion had made that fall inside, and we could just lift it out.

Mineral Wealth in Siberia,

Mineral Wealth in Siberia. D. M. Ivan and Peter Kulahof, mem-bers of the Russian Geological Survey, who have been for some time past in-vestigating the mineral resources of Siberia along the route of the great Siberian railway, arrived at San Fran-cizeo, Cal., recently on their way to St. Petersburg. They traveled a vast distance of mountain region. Their duty was to explore the country for 100 miles on the strip along which the good idea of what the country afforded. "We found it a wonderful country, both in point of scenery and resources of gold, silver, copper, lead, coal and other minerals," said one of the gen-tlemen. "It was all we could have desired. We collected many speci-mens of different descriptions of ore synches was taking back with us to St. Petersburg. Besides the minerals there are many acres of magnificent agricultural ground available chiefly for growing wheat, oats, barley and other counters for commercial develop-ment. It has a thomsand interests than can only be alluded to."-New York Mail and Express.

Black and White Pepper the Same

dit. I was in prison and out then, the lold story, till I married and been summariant of the start the start the start has the sound the start he start has the sound the start has the sound the start he start has the sound the s

reached home. She is now being praised for her presence of mind.

THE FIELD OF ADVENTURE.
 THE AD

A Fight in the Transvant. A Fight in the Transvant. The stories of fighting between Boers and English in South Africa have a strong resemblance to those of Indian fighting in the old days in New England. Bullets are exchanged be-tween excellent marksmen concealed behind stones and bushes, and each bullet has, under such circumstances, an inneas value. The Cape Mercury says that Mr. Sampson, one of the Johannesburg "reformers," still in prison at Pre-toria, is the here of a famcue combat with old Botha, a Boer fighter of re-nown. In the Boer war of 1881 Sampson and Botha found themselves behind stones on a level plain, shoot-ing at each other. Sampson presently made sure that he had hit Botha and raised his head a little, when a bullet plowed his need. "My man is dead," exclaimed Botha, and exposed himself. At the same in-stant a bullet from Sampson's rifle start, a bullet from Sampson's rifle both now had no doubt that he had duded his antagonist, and jumped up on his feet, only to be again laid low. Thom the word on whe at sampson settled in the Transval they became steat hout this encounter. The a Tiger's Jaws.

a wildeat. When the party reached the open-ing the mine boss was found to be in a terrible condition. His face was terri-bly cut, hie clothes nearly torn from his body and he was very weak from loss of blood. On the way nome he told the men of had hunced all day without much anc-cess, and on his way home stopped at the mine to see if everything was all right. He then started over the hill toward the air shaft, and reached it about seven o'clock in the evening. It was very dark and he was stand-trying to thick of some plan to cover up the hole and still have it sorve its purpose. All at once a rustling of the branches overhead aroused him, and suddenly a large animal dropped on his back and began to tear at his face and body. He grappled with the in-furinted beast and a terriblo battle ear-sand. As the mine boss dropped his gran

furiated beast and a terrible battle en-sued. As the mine boss dropped his gun at the first attack the animal had the best of the fight, and in a short time man and beast were on the ground, and every minute they rolled nearer to the opening. At last both fell over the back and were hurled down-ward to the bottom of the shaft. They struck the ground with the wild-eat underneath, which saved the man's life. The boss will recover from his terri-ble wounds, although the scars will stay with him for life.—Cleveland Plaindealer.

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Let us be thankful. Life is not so long;

Saved by Children

song Still lifts its leaves in ligh*. Let us be thankful. We shall one day gain The summit crowned and high; Beneath us leave the lightning and the run And face the clear, starred sky! —Chicago Times-Herald,

On the Sick List: Notice in a Swiss pass: "No echo to day."-Fliegende Blatter. She-"Everybody in the choir de-tests the organist." He-"Yes; I un-derstand that he is despised as a non-combatant."-Puck. comparant."--Fuer. She--"She is doing her best to fascinate that widower. Of course he has considerable means." $He^{-+}Per$ -haps she thinks the means justify the end."-Puck. His View : Brown - "Do you believe

In a Tiger's Jaws.

THANKFULNESS.

Fast fades the day to night; Half is but heartache; but some flower of

HUMOR OF THE DAY.

His View : Brown - "Do you believe in civil-service reform?" Jones (who has failed to pass an examination)-"'I.do. The questions should be made easier."--Puck. "We must get little Bobby a foot-ball mask." "What for?" "He is going down town with nurse, and I don't want him to ruin the shape of his noise on the shop windows."--Ohicago Record. "Young man," said a wealthy city man to his spendthrift nephew, "I lidd the first foundation of my fortuno by saving eab-fares." "I didn't know you ever drove one, uncle," remarked the youth.--Tit-Bits. "Here, what does this mean ?" short-ed Whooply, as he found his youngest riding a broomstick over the top of the piano. "This is all right. Mam-ma said if I'd stay in I could play on the piano."-Detroit Free Press. The Thing for Him: "Don't you think I ought to take ron?" laughed the big fat man, who thought he would be fauny with the doctor. "Certainly; and I would recommend hoop iron."-Detroit Free Press. On the Veranda: "There goes Mrs. Chatwicks. What does she come to florida tor?" "She wants to get rid of her rheumatism." "But why does she bring her three daughters along?" "Oh, she wants to get rid of them, too."-Truth. She-"It's no use, Mr. Slimly; in my present state of mind I would not accept the most attractive man in the world." He-"No, I see you won't; but, at any rate, you will have the satisfaction of knowing that he has of-fored himself."-Tit-Bits. He-"You have no idea of the ex-tent and force of my love, I could also for you." She-"Yee,I suppose so; but dear me, what a graveyard I should have if all the men who were willing to die for me had been taken at their word."-Boston Transcript. In the Museum: Annt Hetty (look-ing at the Wild Men of Borneo)-"What a pity we can't send out moro missionaries to civilize them criturs." Unclé Josh---'I dunno ! If them fel-lers was civilized, they [mightrit be able to git sech a good job."-Puck.

A Yacht as a Monument.

A Yacht as a Monument. It is reported that the cabin of the dyacht Danutiess, the "floating monument," was entered by thieres, and that many articles of value were taken. Soon after the death, a fow years ago, of the owner of the Danut-less, Commodore Caldwell H. Colt, his mother, Mrs. Samuel Colt, of Hartford, had the yacht taken to be see the second the yacht taken to be see the second the yacht taken to be set the second the yacht the yald the last time Com-modore Colt trod her decks. This was in accordance with the expressed that they did the last time Com-modore Colt trod her decks. This be benutless as a floating monument to the memory of her only child. Many offers have been made for the yacht, but she has refused them all, and has announced that never again shall the achelors be raised or a sail be to the spars. Every summer since her son's death Mrs. Colt has journeyed down from her Hartford home and spent two weeks abord, accompanied only by her servants and refusing to units and y callers. –New York tress.

How Seeds Are Distributed. The whole subject of the methods by which seeds are distributed is at-tracting considerable attention just now. It seems almost impossible to construct any general law by which to explain the reason for things in nu-ture. It does seem, for instance, safe to say that wings are given to seeds to enable them to fly far away from the parent tree, and thus extend the species. but in many of the large seed pines-the linden, and others, the hollow seed only are the ones blown away. The solid, perfect seeds remain around the parent tree. The objectors to every-thing argue that wings are given to fan out the light, useless material. But this surely cannot always be.-New York Independent.

He Fishes With an Axe. The Cheyenne (Wyoming) corre-spondent of the Chicago Tribune writes: Colonel W. D. Pickett, e-ranoher on Gray Bull Creek, has e-natural refrigerator on his ranch. During the recent chimode in the Big Horn Basin the ice broke up and gorged a little valley on his place, then froze over solid, imprisoning and freezing thousands of salmon trout. Now the Colonel, when he wants e-mess of fish, just walks ont with an axe and hacks them out of the ice. The gorge gives promise of remaining in

gorge gives promise of remaining in its present state for a month or more.

He Fishes With an Axe.

How Seeds Are Distributed