

Japan's war vessels, great and small, are to cost fifty million dollars, and it will require vast sums to keep them in commission.

American bicycles are appreciated in other countries besides our own. During the past season the number of those exported was four times as large as that of the season previous.

A new York scientist declares that it is entirely possible for a young woman to marry and live well on two dollars a week. The modern young woman, however, exhibits no inclination to make use of all her possibilities.

What is the Maine girl to do with all the luck that must come from having found on one day's outing two six-leaf, forty-five five-leaf, and eighteen four-leaf clovers? A greater Klondike should be within her range of discovery. Already she is being overwhelmed with offers of marriage from superstitious suitors who have tired of farming and lumbering.

A Toronto gentleman explains in a current review just "what the British possessions in America would do in the event of a prolonged war between England and the United States." It would be a valuable article, the Chicago Times-Herald confesses, were it not for one fact—in the event of a prolonged war between England and the United States there will be no British possessions in America.

Insurance against non-employment is an experiment begun in America during the current year according to the Argonaut. It is a private enterprise. Its dues are heavier than those of similar European societies, but its benefits also are much larger. As in the case of the European societies, voluntary non-employment, or non-employment for any cause within the control of the beneficiary, makes all benefits voidable. This excludes the striker. As it is to the interest of the non-insurance companies to help their beneficiaries to get work, a company in Chicago supplies to its beneficiaries the services of two employment bureaus without charge.

China is by no means unlikely to be the next place where the gold fever will break out, remarks Self-Nature. It is known that there are large deposits of the precious metal in the Celestial Empire, and when the Special Ambassador of the Chinese Government was recently passing through Canada on his way to the jubilee celebrations he applied to the authorities of the Dominion for information regarding its laws relating to mining, as well as the methods adopted. The reason for seeking this information, which is now being prepared, was conveyed by the Ambassador, who said that the Chinese authorities intend to give a good deal of attention to the development of the mining industry. The people who desire to be in the forefront of the movement had better, perhaps, consider the advisability of taking tickets to Hong Kong rather than to Klondike.

A combination machine for farming purposes has been invented by ex-Congressman Murray, of South Carolina, which has adjustable attachments to be used on principles somewhat similar to those used on some sewing-machines, and is destined to play an important part in farming throughout the world. The machine is a tricycle set on a frame 3x6 feet, one of the attachments that may be used as a mower measuring five feet. Its cut is clean, and it has a free and easy movement, and is light draught. The owners are willing to test it with any other machine built for that purpose. Other attachments may be used to sow all kinds of grain, wheat, flax, oats, corn, and other cereals, and one as useful and unique as any is for cotton. There are four distinct parts to the cotton-planter, one for opening the row, another for sowing the cotton by grain, an appliance for covering, and a roller to press the row, all of which is done simultaneously in one drive of the horses along the row. The machine also carries with it the most effective potato-digger yet discovered, as well as eight or more hoe drills for drilling wheat, all of which are worked upon the same frame, drawn by two horses. The cotton-chopper should also be mentioned. It revolutionizes the cotton-chopping business on the plantations at the South. Indeed, it dismisses the women from the cotton-fields, and the children need no longer be away from the schools that they may be engaged in cotton-chopping. The truth is, two men with two horses, using this machine, can chop many times more in a day than thirty men, women, and children with their hands and hoer.

NEWS AND NOTES FOR WOMEN.

Painting Pictures at Seventy-Six.

For the first time in thirty years Rosa Bonheur has exhibited this season some of her pictures in the Paris Salon. These exhibits comprise four pastels; and the fact that they are dated 1897 shows the remarkable energy of this most industrious woman, who is now in her seventy-sixth year. She lives in great seclusion all the year round near Fontainebleau, and the reason given for her not exhibiting in Paris heretofore is that all her pictures are bought even before they are finished.—Woman's Journal.

Women in University Life.

One of the reports of the Educational Department in England has a special table devoted to the subject of the admission of women to university life. Inquiries have been instituted as to the arrangements made for women students at 162 of the universities of the civilized nations in both hemispheres, and 139 replies were received. The questions asked were: Are women admitted as members of the universities? Are they admitted on the same terms as men? Are they admitted to lectures? Are they admitted to examinations? Are they eligible for university degrees?

It is significant of the advanced Liberalism of Scotland and Wales that their five universities have no answer but "Yes" to make, save as regards certain medical courses in the north country. Australia, India and Canada also answer "Yes," and Toronto proudly says, "No advantage is granted to men which is not open to women." New Zealand gives practically the same reply. France, Belgium, Holland, Denmark, Norway, Sweden, Switzerland, Greece, Italy, and, of course, the United States, have almost unbroken columns of "Yes." The great sinners of Europe are Germany, Austria and Russia.—New York Press.

Woman For Game Warden.

Once again a new and startling occupation has been found for the new woman. It is that of game warden, and the woman who distinguished herself by making this brand new department is Mrs. Warren Neal, of Neal, Mich. This woman was appointed game warden for Grand Traverse County not long since, and from the appearance of things she will attend to the duties of her office in a business-like manner. The duties of game warden are of such a nature that many men would not care to undertake to fill the place; but Mrs. Neal is a plucky little woman, and she has no fear whatever of not being able to overcome all obstacles. A game warden is supposed to travel all over the county and keep a sharp lookout for violators of the game and fish laws. As Grand Traverse County, of which Mrs. Neal has control, is densely wooded and has many lakes, she will be kept very busy seeking out and bringing to justice violators of the law. Mrs. Neal handles a gun like an expert, rows a boat, and is a skillful woodsman, and she knows every inch of the territory she has to patrol. In order to make her way through the dense growths in the forest land as easily as possible, Mrs. Neal has adopted a costume modelled after the much-reviled bloomers.—Philadelphia Inquirer.

How to Clean Furs.

"The ancient idea that really good furs will last forever is a fallacy, and many an owner of a fine sealskin jacket or fine ermine cape will soon be astonished when she looks at her furs for the first time since their long summer seclusion, to find that they look very shabby after lying in a camp chest for six months," said a New York furrier.

"If a dealer has had charge of such articles during the off season they are kept in good condition, because he has every convenience for cleaning and taking care of furs. But if the owner has taken them into her own keeping she will no doubt be glad at this time to learn how her treasures may be renovated and made to look 'as good as new.'"

"Ermine and sealskin are best cleaned with soft flannel. Rub the fur delicately against the grain, and when it has been thoroughly lifted and reversed, dip the flannel into common flour and rub lightly any spots that look dark or dirty. Then shake the goods well and rub the fur with a clean dry flannel until the flour is all removed.

"Sable, chinchilla, squirrel and monkey skin may be very effectively cleaned with hot bran. Procure a small quantity of bran meal and heat it in an oven until it is quite warm. Then rub it softly into the fur and leave the goods for five or ten minutes before shaking to free them from the bran.

"Mink may be cleaned and freshened with warm gormel, and, like the other short-haired furs, may be done without removing the lining. But the long-haired goods are best ripped apart and freed from stuffing and lining.

"Those who may not care to go to the trouble of taking fur garments apart will find that the simple remedies I have mentioned will go a long way toward making the jackets and capes look clean, even if not ripped apart."—Washington Star.

Gossip.

There are seventeen Protestant de-

nominations, it is said, which ordain women preachers.

Mrs. Victoria Conkling Whitney, President of the Woman's Suffrage Society of St. Louis, is trying to have the Street Cleaning Department of that city put in charge of women.

The school board of Valparaiso, Ind., has decided not to employ married women as teachers. It requires from applicants a pledge that they will not marry during the school year.

Miss Jane E. Harrison, upon whom the University of Durham, England, is about to confer a degree, has gained recognition as a Greek scholar and lecturer on Greek art, especially Greek vase painting.

It is not fashionable in Japan for women to be seen an entire evening in the same costume. Consequently the theatres have three tiers of boxes so arranged that the amiable little creatures can change their dresses and ornaments in seclusion.

It is said that Santa Fe, New Mexico, is the only city in the country with a board of trade composed only of women members. They attend to all matters of business relating to the good order of the city and its sanitary condition, receive and welcome strangers and entertain all celebrities.

Aunt Mary is an old colored woman of Houston, Texas, who has read the Bible through three times, but is unable to read anything else. That she can actually read the Bible, however, and does not speak the text from memory, is positively asserted by her mistress. This colored woman is also a woman of means, owns several pieces of real estate and a wardrobe valued at \$200.

A South American woman is quoted as saying that some time ago, in the absence of water, of which there was a great dearth at the time, she washed her face with the juice of a watermelon. The result was so soothing that she repeatedly washed her face in this manner, and her astonishment was great a few days later on seeing that there was not a freckle left on her previously freckled cheeks.

Dr. C. A. Wood, who makes eye troubles a specialty, has discovered that all kinds of face veils produce disturbance, weak sight, headache, vertigo or nausea. The dotted veils are the worst, and those with a double-thread mesh are much more injurious than those woven with a single thread. In the veils without dots or figures vision is made defective in direct proportion to the number of meshes to the square inch.

Found in the World of Fashion.

Roman plaid silk sashes.
Blouse suits of velvet for girls.
Boys' military capes, double faced.
Plaid and striped ribbon stocks and belts.
Small checked silks crossbarred with black.
Fichu collars of black mousseline ruffles.
Muslin and lace guimpes for yoke frocks.
Velvet blouses in high colors for the house.
Large assortments of natural ostrich feathers.
Satin cravats with ovals of a changeable effect.
Tam o'Shanter's of plaid velvet and woolen goods.
Girls' cashmere frocks trimmed with velvet ribbon.
Gold ribbon belts embroidered with colored beads.
Jacket suits of serge, cloth or drap d'ete for small girls.
Light colors in surah for sashes and collars on girls' frocks.
Small box and muff sets for girls of four to fourteen years.
Mousseline embroidered with solid flowers of colored spangles.
Fur capes having a lace jabot or cravat bow and an ornate gilt clasp.
Ring-shaped brooches of tiny gold leaves set with one to three jewels.
Bands of black net thickly covered with shaded spangles, for millinery.
Knee length, tight-fitting coats worn with an ornamental belt and buckle.
Yellow and pink satin peau de soie and taffeta for bridesmaids' toilettes.
Blue serge suits trimmed with red velvet belt and stock collar for misses.
Red cloth blouses thickly covered with scrolls of black satin milliner's folds.
Leather cardcases and purses combined with a strap for the handkerchief.
Children's bengaline coats in full Russian style trimmed with fur and velvet.
Children's bonnets of an immense size with tips and satin ribbon trimmings.
Ermine collarettes combined with lace epaulettes and jabot and a bow of velvet.
Felt hats having a large velvet crown, ruche of gaufréd silk and ostrich tips.
Corsets and petticoats to match of glace taffeta trimmed with black or white lace.
Cloth of gold, plain and bead embroidered, for vests, yokes and Russian blouses.

SCIENTIFIC AND INDUSTRIAL.

Good veins of emery have been found in the sapphire mines in the Yogo district, Montana.

A Dutchman of Weert has found a way of spinning thread from peat, which is woven into clothing. The fabrics thus made are comparatively cheap and intended for ordinary use.

At a recent meeting of the Institution of Civil Engineers in London, the opinion was expressed that the coming material for ship-building is nickel steel, but that before it can be extensively used, further deposits of nickel must be discovered.

French experts in the desert of Sahara are expressing apprehensions at the gradual diminution of the fertile oases. It is known that the large oases were much larger in the time of the ancient Romans, and that they are being constantly reduced in size by the encroachments of the sand dunes. The problem is how to stop these.

According to Herr Levinstein, the action of the rarefied air on the animal organism is to produce a very strong fatty degeneration of the heart, the liver and the muscles, while death sets in through the want of oxygen. The experiments from which these facts were ascertained were performed on a rabbit at thirty or forty centimeters pressure.

Diving operations at a great depth have proved successful off Cape Finisterre, all the silver bars from the steamer Skyro, which sank in thirty fathoms in 1891, having been brought to the surface. The working depth for the divers was never less than 171 feet, and was often more. Dynamite was used to blow away the deck. The value of the silver was \$45,000.

The only United States dry dock now available for the largest battleships of the white squadron is that at Puget Sound, on the extreme north-western boundary, which is the largest in the Western Hemisphere. It is 650 feet long, and over ninety-two feet wide at the gate, with a depth over the sill of thirty feet. Ships of twelve thousand tons can be docked in it.

The lightest substance known is said to be the pith of the sunflower, with a specific gravity of 0.028, while elder pith—hitherto recognized as the lightest substance—has a specific gravity of 0.09, reindeer's hair 0.1 and cork 0.24. For saving appliances at sea, cork, with a buoyancy of one to five, or reindeer's hair with one of one to ten, has been used, while the pith of the sunflower has a buoyancy of one to thirty-five.

One would hardly look for new forms of animal life in a vast, dark cavern like the Mammoth Cave of Kentucky. Yet as a matter of fact, no less than seven such forms inhabiting that particular cave, and hitherto unknown to science, have recently been described. The fact that these creatures are very minute does not detract from their scientific interest, while, on the other hand, it must increase our admiration for the skill and industry of the naturalists who do not allow even microscopic life to escape their ken, although hidden in places where no ray of sunlight ever penetrates.

The Squaw and the Cigar.

A sleeping car passenger on a train running into Portland, Oregon, strolled into the smoking car and took a seat just ahead of a squaw. He was puffing vigorously at a cigar, and the Indian woman got more of the smoke than she liked. She protested in pantomime to the conductor, who, being something of a wag, indicated that she should make use of an immense umbrella she had by bringing it down on the man's head. She naturally presumed that the conductor's authority was all-sufficient and forthwith acted on his suggestion with native vigor. The man's hat was knocked down over his eyes and all but ruined, and the cigar was knocked spinning gallely west. When he got out of his hat he turned with not inexpressible ferocity upon his assailant, but the squaw merely looked at him with aboriginal immobility of countenance, and wouldn't understand either English or sign language, and while the other passengers were convulsed with merriment he had to retreat to another car.—New York Sun.

Pistol Balls of Wood.

A patrolman arrested N. E. Thwait on Decatur street for being drunk and for disorderly conduct, and when he caught hold of the colored man he threw his right hand behind him and attempted to draw a pistol. As quick as lightning the officer reached for his own pistol, and when the colored man saw that the officer meant business he threw his weapon to the ground. Thwait was placed under arrest and his pistol picked up from where it had been thrown. At the police barracks Thwait talked about getting away, and it took some trouble to keep him quiet. He contended that he did not mean to shoot the officer, but only meant to hide the pistol in his trousers leg. When the pistol, which was a heavy bulldog, was examined it was found to be loaded with six cartridges, but instead of lead they contained wooden bullets.—Atlanta Constitution.

A Curious Garment.

A curious garment came into this port recently on one of the trans-Atlantic steamers. It was a petticoat on a very pretty young woman, and its novelty consisted in the fact of its being made of some two dozen gold stockings sewed together in the shape of a skirt. Keen Custom House inspectors, seeing the unusual bulk of a rather slender young woman's outfit, made the discovery.

Emperor of China's Tea.

All the tea drunk by the Emperor of China is grown in a special garden, kept exclusively for the purpose.



Health of Plants.

It is impossible for plants to thrive unless they have plenty of earth. There must be ample room in the pot or tub for the expansion and sustenance of the roots.

To Mow That Hedge.

Hedges can be easily trimmed by mowing machines with a new cutter bar, which rests on a tilting frame and can be raised to any height and set at any angle desired.

Protecting Tree-Trunks.

After making numerous trials of various wraps and washes to protect trees from rabbits, mice, borers and sunscald, I find that wrapping with burlap is the most effective. This material will last two years.—Samuel Edwards, of Illinois.

How to Improve a Lawn.

Lawns can be kept green and thick-set without the use of stable manure. City and village people who have a few square rods of grass, usually imagine it necessary to keep the plot covered for weeks with highly scented and ill looking manure, when the fact is that one half the money's worth of nitrate of soda and powdered phosphate of lime will answer better and create no nuisance. They furnish to the soil, what is most needed, an alkali, phosphoric acid and nitrogen—both of them are odorless and show their effects immediately on their application.—Andrew H. Ward.

Clover Philosophy.

The fact that clover supplies atmospheric nitrogen to the soil is one reason why all grain crops do well after clover. It does another kind thing, however, for the farmer. The other two remaining elements of fertility are potash and phosphate acid. Soils have a great abundance of these elements, but the greater portion of them is locked up in forms in which the ordinary grain crops cannot utilize them. The clover plant, however, has the faculty of getting after and using all these forms of fertility where other plants fail, and as the clover hay is fed to stock and the manure resulting is hauled to the field, and as the roots decay in the soil, these elements are left in a position where the other plants can use them. Herein lies the danger of constantly growing clover. If any clover is used as a stimulant, or, say, a fertilizer, and the resulting crops of hay are sold, the roots plowed under, grow corn, wheat, oats, and these sold, and this process kept on from year to year, the result will be the bankruptcy of the land in potash and phosphoric acid, the absolute refusal of clover to grow, and the disease known as "clover sickness." When land reaches this point it is the most hopelessly barren of all soils, and can only be reclaimed by the liberal use of fertilizers or else lying idle for a number of years, until the forces of nature gradually unlock, by freezing and thawing, the mineral elements that all plants require.—Farm, Stock and Home.

Selecting Cows For the Dairy.

Prof. T. L. Haecker, of the Minnesota Experiment Station, says: We must first determine what we want the animals for, and then select those which are adapted for that particular purpose. At the university we keep a careful account of the cost of keeping each cow of the herd, with a view of determining the cost of a pound of butter made from the milk of each cow. The cost varied from eight to twelve cents a pound, some animals costing fifty per cent. more than others in producing a pound of butter. We divided the herd into two classes and found that the division that cost the most to produce butter had a tendency to put on flesh more than the others. In order to be doubly sure that our conclusions were correct, we made a second test with the same result. Now, why was this? I examined the two classes individually and found that the spare built cow, with a deep body, was the best dairy cow. In both divisions all breeds of cows were represented. What we wanted to find out, if possible, was how to be able to tell, without making a mistake, the animal that would make butter the cheapest. Careful investigation developed the fact that it took one pound of food to maintain 100 pounds of animal weight, so that animal that weighed 900 pounds would digest eighteen pounds of feed required nine pounds to support herself and should return the remaining nine pounds to her owner.

We must feed the cow just what she needs to maintain and produce the greatest possible amount of milk; select her food for her, for if you turn her out where she has access to a straw pile or other coarse fodder she will fill her stomach with food that she does not need, and it will occupy the space in the stomach that should be filled with nutriment to produce milk. There is another thing I have noticed, and that is, that in examining Jersey herds we find the animals are generally advanced in age. Large cows are not as good for the dairy as they have to carry too much weight, and it has a tendency to wear them out and they put on beef and break down and wear out.

The Advantage of Sheep.

I am not exactly a sheep crank, says D. S. Young, of Iowa, in Farm News. I haven't been clamoring for more protection on wool, for I own no immense flocks on a thousand or even one hill, but I do think that I made a big mistake in not keeping at least a small flock on my farm from the time I left my father's house.

Sheep pay. They pay irrespective of the wool, and it is time more of us are waking up to the fact. I am glad to see that Farm News keeps hammering away on the subject.

Professor Curtis, of our State Experiment Station, has very conclusively shown our farmers the advantages of sheep raising. By a series of experiments, he has demonstrated that lambs under one year old will show greater increase from a given amount of feed than will cattle coming two years old, and (here's the kernel of the nut) the mutton will bring a better price than the beef! You get more pounds of it and more for it per pound. The clip of wool is just so much extra—thrown in, to boot. And, moreover, (and this is another important fact) the sheep when you have sold them, have left your land richer and cleaner than when you put them in it.

It pays to raise sheep.

An institute lecturer once summed up the advantages of sheep in this wise, and I have kept his summing up in my scrap book, to keep up my courage when wool is low in price:

1. They are profitable.
2. They weaken the soil least and strengthen it most.
3. They are enemies of weeds.
4. The care they need is required when other farm operations are slack.
5. The amount of investment need not be large.
6. The returns are quick and many.
7. They are the quietest and easiest handled of all farm stock.
8. Other farm products are made more largely from cash grains, while those from the sheep are made principally from pasture.
9. There is no other product of the farm that has fluctuated so slightly in value as good mutton.
10. By comparison wool costs nothing, for do not the horse and cow in shedding their coats waste what the sheep saves?

In conclusion let me repeat: Sheep pay.

Chemical Reason Why Fall Plowing is Better Than Spring Plowing.

To prepare the ground for the seed it should be deeply plowed in the autumn and cross-plowed, as the land cannot be plowed in the spring without exposing a large surface to the strong drying effects of the spring winds and thus occasioning the loss from the soil by evaporation of a quantity of water proportioned to the increase of surface exposed. By the reciprocal action of the atmosphere and the soil the latter keeps up its store of available nutritive matters. The silicates soluble with difficulty slowly yield alkalies, lime and magnesia in soluble forms; the sulphides are slowly converted into sulphates and generally the minerals of the soil are disintegrated and mixed under the influence of the oxygen, the water, the carbonic acid and the nitric acid of the air. Again, the atmospheric nitrogen is assimilated by the soil in the shape of ammonia, nitrates and the amide-like matters of humus.

The rate of disintegration, as well as that of nitrification, depends in part upon the chemical and physical character of the soil, and partly upon the temperature and meteorological conditions.

Moreover, the soil lying in rough interfurrows has been subjected to the action of frost; it is in its upper layers so broken up and divided in all directions by the powerful expansion of the water when converted into ice, as to be reduced to the condition of the greatest possible fineness—recognized and so much desired by the farmer under the term mellowness.

It has consequently attained that degree of pulverization and porosity which, with an adequate degree of moisture, affords a solid standing-ground for the young plant, while at the same time enough air for the development of the germ can penetrate the surface of the soil, and in the upper layers nutritive material for the young plant dissolved by the moisture of the winter is always present. It is therefore in accordance with reason not to plow the land at all in the spring, but to put in the seeds without further preparation than a previous harrowing.

The vigorous development of plants depends far less upon the weight and size of the seed than upon the depth to which it is covered with the earth, and upon the stores of nourishment which it finds in its first period of life.—Andrew H. Ward.

Misnamed.

Mrs. Wilton—"I have not heard from your daughter since she married a foreign count."

Mrs. Bilton—"She is very unhappy."

Mrs. W.—"Too bad; but such matches usually are unfortunate."

Mrs. B.—"Indeed they are. You see the poor girl knows so little of foreign languages that she drops back into English every time she gets mad, and then her husband can't understand a word she says."—New York Weekly.

THE MERRY SIDE OF LIFE.

STORIES THAT ARE TOLD BY THE FUNNY MEN OF THE PRESS.

A Taking Young Fellow—Easily Fired—The Discourteous Interruption—Fixed Back—Parts of Speech—A Genuine Delight—His Sphere of Activity, Etc.

He took her fancy when he came;
He took her hand, he took a kiss;
He took no notice of the shame
That glowed her happy cheek at this.

He took to coming afterwards;
He took an oath he'd never deceive;
He took her father's silver spoons,
And after that he took—his leave!

Easily Defined.

"What is courting danger, Uncle Simon?"

"Any kind of courting."

The Discourteous Interruption.

"What is a rude awakening, pa?"

"Well, it is an awakening before 8 o'clock in the morning."

Parts of Speech.

"Were you knocked speechless when you ran into that ice wagon?"

"No; but my wheel was knocked spokeless."—The Wheel.

Fired Back.

"You consider this garbage question an important one, do you not?"

"My dear sir, it's the burning question of the age."—Chicago Post.

No Limitations.

"Dodsworth, your wife seems to be a woman of commanding presence."

"Commanding presence! By Jove, sir, my wife can command when she's absent."

A Genuine Delight.

"There is one thing which gratifies a woman more than all things else."

"And what is that?"

"Being told that other women are jealous of her."—Chicago Record.

His Sphere of Activity.

First Citizen—"I never was so busy as I am now."

Second Citizen—"What are you doing?"

First Citizen—"I'm looking for a job."—Brooklyn Life.

Cleaned Out.

Perry Patetic—"Please, mister, could you help the victim of a wash-out?"

Mister—"Of a wash-out?"

"Yes, mister, I ain't had nothin' but watter to drink for two long weeks."—Cincinnati Enquirer.

The Difference.

"What do you think will be the effect of that politician's latest utterance?"

"It depends on the individual," replied Willie Washington. "People who like him will call it 'a praiseworthy step,' and those who don't will refer to it as 'a shrewd move.'"—Washington Star.

A Change of Heart.

He—"I think I shall have to preach a bicycle sermon to-morrow advising all my parishioners to ride a wheel."

She—"Why, Joseph, it was only three weeks ago that you denounced the wheel most thoroughly."

He—"Yes; but remember, my dear, that was while I was learning to ride."—Harper's Bazar.

A Wonderful Man.

"What a patient man that Hanford is?"

"Is he patient? I never noticed it."

"Yes; he inflated his tires with a hand pump this morning without swearing that he would throw the thing away and kick his wheel to pieces rather than ever to try to do it again."—Cleveland Leader.

Tied Up.

"There's the wood pile," significantly suggested the housewife when Meandering Mike applied for a re-past.

"Madame," he replied, "dis here is one o' de mos' melancholly coincidents dat ever happened. I'm de President of de 'Sociation of Wandering Woodchoppers,' an' it ain't been mor'n two minutes since I declared a general strike."

A Lesson.

"I'm glad to observe one thing," said the official's close acquaintance. "Your elevation to political honors hasn't made you at all proud."

"I should say it hasn't. A man doesn't know what real humility is until he has got an appointment and had all his intimate friends tell him they don't see how on earth he came to be picked out for so important an office."—Washington Star.

Looking Before Leaping.

Lady—"I wish you would call at the office of Mr. Oldrich, 999 Fashion avenue, contrive to have some conversation with the venerable gentleman, and so far as you are able, examine into his physical condition. I desire to know how long he is likely to live."

Physician—"Certainly. Are you his wife?"

Lady—"No, but I have a chance to be."—New York Weekly.

Way He Was Welcome.

"Here, Harry, is a dime for you," said Mr. Harper to the little brother of the one he loves. "Have you ever heard Miss Bessie say anything about me when I wasn't here?"

"Oh, lots of time," replied the sweet child.

"And what does she say, Harry?"

"She says she's always glad to have you come here when she's feelin' all wore and tired."

"And," continued the delighted young man, "does she ever explain why she likes to have me come at such times?"

"Yes. She says you're so easy she can go to sleep and still keep you guessin'."—Cleveland Leader.