Nearly every Oriental mail brings an account of the launching of some powerful new battle-ship or cruiser for the Japanese navy.

In British India no one can carry warlike weapons without a license, and a law of this kind would be desirable in many States of the Union. Deprive the Italian of his stiletto and he would become a peaceful citizen.

Her spirits in the amber naze,

Dark-robed magicians by whose art

Forgotten forms are conjured up, Shrewd alchemists whose cunning hold Trans recollection's rusts to gold, And pours in fancy's silver cup The dews of peace to still my heart.

It is said the Tilden-Astor-Lenox It is said the Tilden-Astor-Lenox Library of New York, when opened, will contain 450,000 volumes. This will be a most excellent showing. The Boston Public Library, an old institution, has only 663,736 volumes.

Independent, on an average over one Independent, on an average over one accident on the railways a day; and it is conceded that want of proper machinery and the needful number of hands is to blame for the catastrophes,

In England every prisoner is guar.

In England every prisoner is guar.

In England every prisoner is guaranteed the right "to communicate with his solicitor before trial." A man recently arrested in London for a felony can neither read nor write and is dumb. Can he be convicted legally? asks the Chicago Times-Herald.

A country school ma'am, who teaches northeast of Emporia, Kan., has adopted a novel method to bring her literary productions before the public. She writes her own poetry and compels the poor children to recite it before the school. The trustees do not know anything about it.

Captain William Rogers, in a letter to the New York Herald, shows how to the New York Herald, shows how lamentably weak is the American merchant marine. It includes only nine-ty-seven ships less than twenty-three years old, with a tonnage of 171,020. The United Kingdom is 1893 alone added 363 steamers and sixty-nine ships, with a tonnage of 2,797,764, to her great fleet.

Not the least interesting feature of Germany's seizure of Kiao-Chau is that that spot had been selected by the that that spot had been selected by the Chinese Government for its own use as a fortified port and naval station. That was the first recommendation made by Li Hung Changon his return home, and it is by no means improbable that it was that fact that prompted Germany to saize the place. Germany to seize the place.

The English sparrow is disappearing from New York. In places that ased to see and hear much more of this noisy bird than was compatible with peace of mind, there is now no sign of him. He has either moved or been served to gourmands as a reed bird. It is about twenty-five years since the English sparrow was brought to New York to kill the worms that hung on webs from the ailanthus shade nung on webs from the ailanthus shade trees and caught in the hats or clothtrees and caught in the hats or clothing of passers-by. He did that jobwell, but he multiplied so fast that he became a nuisance, not only in New York, but in most other Eastern cities and villages, where, among other sins, he is held accountable for the retreat of garden songbirds into the fields and woods. Hence a good riddance for his going.

The almost incredible story that somes from Washington about the finding of a large amount of money, in coin, bills, orders and notes, in the deaks and drawers formerly used by Congress Librarian Spofford, everybody will hope to be true who knew or had dealings with that long-term official, now retired in disgrace from the place he occupied so many years, flicial, now retired in disgrace trong flicial trong flic the place he occupied so many years, observes the Chicago Record. "The liscovery of this money, if indeed the account be a true one, is less surprising than was the charge of defalcation under which he left his old office. We could all more easily believe that the old gentleman was absent-minded than, that he was intentionally a defaulter. At the time his accounts were, fround to be short there was a surprise and sympathy, but no idea that he could have merely misplaced missing valuable papers. He simply sould not produce them, and he was put out and forgotten. Everybody wondered but nobody upbraided; they were all too astonished for that. And now they find thousands of dollars in those old desks and drawers, the mispellaneous receipts of twenty-seven years! The fees for copyrights of a generation, which he had acknowledged to have received, but which he had never credited on his books, are said to be there. It is an extraordinary story of senility and carelessness. It is to be hoped that all the circumstances will clear the reputation of this old man, of whom all the world thought so well. He can afford to be charged with want of carefulness, but not with want of honesty."

Marie nodded. I felt very complexent. And you like Philip Transome? I continued.

And you like Philip Transome? I continued.

And you like Philip Transome? I continued.

Thu you can't decide between us, Is that it?

"That's it," acknowledged Marie, were all to early early? "There Marie was a bush it did not it was a blush I did not lever way?

"I have and I can't?—here Marie blushed, but it was a blush I did not lever. The remainder was a bush I did not lever was a surprise and sympathy which I had for Marie the better."

It have all transome again.

"I'ut you can't decide between us, Is that it?

"That's it," acknowledged Marie, welly.

"You have tried every way?"

"I have and I can't ell which of you I like the better."

The person who skis in the sent of the undecided sits not easily. This I knew. And any decision is better than no decis

not with want of honesty.'

MEMORIES

Haste, while the deep ning shadows st A-down the dusky path of night, Dim harbingers of spirit bands Who lure the soul to unknown lands, Haste, while the embers' dying light Its mystic picture-lore reveals.

What strange emotions thrill the heart As each Elysian shade appears! Sweet apparitions gliding by As clouds float o'er a summer sky— These spirit-forms of bygone years, These phantasans of mem'ry's art. Wouth's Commander

HEADS OR TAILS.



ARIE," I began "you must know
—you must have
seen for a long
time that—that—

were twisting a bit of lace that she called a handkerchief.

She was smiling before I began. She now looked dis

I do not like for Marie to look di

laid aside my own anar to communication.

Marie. I began, venturing with much treplation to lay my hand softly upon both of hers, "what's the matter?"

She looked up. Her lips were quivering, and a tear, balanced for the start, stood in each eye.

"I don't know what to do," she whispered brokenly.

"Well?" I said, inquiringly, inviting her to continue.

"lot see, A.T. Transome told me last night what you told me just now."
"Damn Transome!" I said to myself; and to Marie, "Well, Philip Transome is a fine fellow, you know."
"Of course," said Marie, acquiescing a little too readily, I thought, "And he's good-looking."

a little too readily, I thought.

"And he's good-looking."

"Yes."

"And rich."

"Yes."

This itemizing a rival's good points to comfort the woman you love is rationare restraining on one's generosity. It isn't so bad if the woman rewards your generosity, as of course she should.

But Marie didn't. So I stopped.

"Well, where's the trouble then?" I asked at lefight.

"I don't know what to do," she replied, repeating her former wall.

"I began to see. It is hard to decide between two lovers. I could sympathize with Marie, for I had once been in a similar predicament myself.

Marie did not notice the sympathy. She merely looked uncomfortable at this bald statement of the difficulty, But she did not deny it.

"You like me, don't you?" I ventured, with some fear in my heart.

But she did not "You like me, d with some fear i Marie nodded.

ing from her chair.

"Toss up for us," I repeated, calmly.

Marie sank back in her chair and
gazed at me in amazement. charged with want of carefulness, but

Marie's surprise at my suggestion ingered me somewhat. Of course I can understand that choosing a husband in such a way may seem a little queer to some girls. But they needn't cot as though it were so unusual. Be-

nto her eyes.
"No, you do it," she said, returning he coin, "I don't know how."
We both stood up, "Heads, it is 'ransome; tails, it is I?" I suggested,

Marie nodded.

I balanced the coin on my first finger.

I felt sure of the result, for the man never lived who is as lucky as I am.

I even began to pity poor Transome. But before this feeling had much opportunity to grow I flipped the quarter whirling into the air, and, as it struck the floor, placed my foot upon it.

I looked at Marle. "Which shall it be?" I asked, softly.

"You," she whispered.

I slipped my foot aside and we both stopped. The laurel-wreathed head of Liberty was up.

I slipped my foot aside and we both stopped. The laurel-wreathed head of Liberty was up.

It was Transome!
We both straightened up. I looked at Marie and Marie looked at me. She was pale, and I could not have been otherwise. I had risked all on the turn of a coin—and it had turned the wrong way. Without a word, for I was not wise in the ways of women, I walked out of the room, secured my hat in the hall, and started to open the door and go out into the street.

As my hand was turning the knob something touched my arm. I turned and looked around. There stood Marie with a little smile—a little beseeching smile—on her face.

"Dick," she whispered, and then was silent. I still held on to the door knob. "Dick"—this time the smile was still more beseeching—"can't you see? It's —It's you, anyhow."

I saw, and my hand left the door knob. And in the little excitement that followed I also may have kissed Marie. Such things have happened.—St. Louis Globe-Democrat.

RAM'S HORN BLASTS.

Warning Notes Calling the Wicked to Repentance.



For an epitaph: "He believed in ree gospel: it never cost him a cent." "Christianity is all very well, but a an must live." Yes, to all eternity.

The confession of past folly may be only the profession of present wisdom

He

the light will brighten a dark corner.

It is the shadow on the dial that proves the sun is shining, so with our lives, affliction may show the presence of a Guiding Hand.

We are training ourselves here for what we shall be hereafter; according ly, some spend the Lord's day worship ing; others, emoking.



The Ripple Collar.

The newest collar is the one known 1s "ripple," which really does not ripple any more than those of last year. It differs from the old collar in that it fits saugger to the neck, and yet has the same effect of flaring which it had. If the collar flares too much it loses in warmth, and yet it is the flare which is becoming to most faces. An ingenious maker of fur garments has obviated this difficulty by making the collar slightly more flaring; and then catching it in plaits about two inches wide at regular intervals. The plait is not evident except upon close inspection, and yet the collar has the effect of being extremely full, at the same time standing up snug and trim around the neck so as hardly to require fastening in front.

and yet the collar has the effect of being extremely full, at the same time standing up snug and trim around the neck so as hardly to require fastening in front.

Turkish Girls.

Turkish girls of the better class in the cities, after they are too old to attend the primary schools, are largely educated at home by governesses, many of whom come from England and France, but, unfortunately, do not always represent the highest culture of these nations, so that the real love of study is not as a rule, developed under the influence. Turkish women have a great aptitude for foreign languages, and those meton the steamers of the Bosphorus often speak French, and it is not unusual for them to speak German and English also.

It is a well-known fact that many Turkish women are engaged in trade, some even carrying on an extensive business, involving frequent journeys to Egypt and other places, which presupposes the ability to read and write, as well as some knowledge of arithmetic. Moreover, conversation with the Mussulman woman in the capital reveals some progress at the present time in independence of thought, and, while social conditions have unavoidably arrested the development of Turkish women as a class, forces are slowly but surely working among them that will result in their final emancipation.

An Economical Princess.

tion.

An Economical Princess.
Though always elegantly and perfectly dressed, the Princess of Wales by no means errs on the side of extravagance. Her Royal Highness has been known to wear a gown three successive seasons when it suited herand remained fresh and handsome. For instance, at the opening of the People's Palace at Whitechaple, the Princess wore a striking jacket of olive-green velvet, brocaded with small ripe red strawberries.

There could be no mistaking so distinctive a stuff, and it was recognized by a woman who had seen the Princess in Ireland two summers before, as one that had been altered somewhat, but there was the same splendid fabric doing its through economical duty. Her Royal Highness's influence, too, has ever been against excess in fashion. She has always refused to patronize very wide skirts, balloon-like sleeves on the gover-trimmed headgeav.

When ordering new gowns, colored pictures of them, back and front, as they should look when finished, with scraps of the princess's approval, and it is a very usual occurrence for the Princess's approval, and it is a very usual occurrence for the Princess's approval, and it is a very usual occurrence for the Princess's approval, and it is a very usual occurrence for the Princess's approval, and it is a very usual occurrence for the Princess's approval, and it is a very usual occurrence for the Princess's approval, and it is a very usual occurrence for the Princess's approval, and it is a very usual occurrence for the Princess's approval, and it is a very usual occurrence for the Princess's approval, and it is a wery usual occurrence for the Princess's approval, and it is a wery usual occurrence for the Princess's approval, and it is a wery usual occurrence for the Princess's approval, and it is a wery usual occurrence for the Princess's in woman suffrage, and andel of her own figure, and the work women do not see her at all, unless considerable alterations are necessary.

The should be a read all, unless considerable alterations are necessary.

O wide skirts, balloon-like sleeves or buge over-trimmed headgeav. When ordering new gowns, colored bottures of them, back and front, as hey should look when finished, with craps of the proposed materials and rimmings attached, are submitted for be Princess's approval, and it is a robe take her own brush or pencil and liter the pictures to please her excelent taste. The gowns are fitted on a model of her own figure, and the work women do not see her at all, unless considerable alterations are necessary. Che clever brush has made it so cernin just what Her Royal Highness vants, that a personal interview is needless.—London Figure. hat a personal
—London Figar

needless.—London Figaro.

Art Girls in Paris.

A young American, who, heaped with honors, has just exturned from Paris, told me, greatly to my surprise, that she thought it an idle and unwise plan for girls to go abroad to study art until they had been drilled into the fundamental work at home. She gave me ever so many reasons for this, but that which seemed to her the strongest, was the fact that Paris is full of American women who, not having had their abilities tested at home, have gone there only to find that years and years of uphill work lie before them, with no prospects at the end. For that which they thought to be talent in themselves has proved, when taken to the other side, to be but a flinsy affair not worth cultivating for bread-winning purposes.

With the poverty belonging to most

when taken to the other side, to be but a flimsy affair not worth cultivating for bread-winning purposes.

With the poverty belonging to most of these women, suffering is inevitable, and this suffering, she argues, is best endured at home, where the young girl is near her family or her friends, and where the many forms of complicated miseries incident to a life alone in Paris are spared them—miseries asy to endure and accepted without question if success lie ahead, and one is assured of possessing real talent and power, but miseries that cut into the soul of one and destroy the finer items if endured for ends never possible of attainment.

The mere cost of living may be sheaper in Paris, but the advantages to be derived among us for foundation work outbalance all other questions. One must have \$50 a month to live in Paris. With rigid economy \$25 may be made to suffice for one's personal expenses. The other \$25 must be set side for the purchase of paints and

materials necessary to her if she means to derive full benefit from her opportunities to work.—Harper's

Gossip.

Miss Cora Dow, of Cincae proprietor of four successores in that city.

stores in that city.

Miss Murnane, a man hater, of Brushy Fork, Ill., has directed in her will that no men shall be present at her funeral.

Mrs. Elitch, of Denver, drives about the city in a light wagon, drawn by an ostrich. She is the only woman in the world who owns a zoological garden.

meeting in place of the regulation "here" when the roll is called.

The wife of Senator White, of California, does not live with him during his attendance in Washington, because she dreads thunderstorms, which they do not have in California, taking carthquakes as a substitute.

Miss Edna Whitney, the young woman who works in a cigar factory, and whom Kansas City rejected as maid of honor at the fall carnival, is going on the stage. She will study for her new profession in Kansas City.

Miss Ramsay Gibson Maitland, by the death of her father, Sir James Ramsay Gibson Maitland, in England, recently, becomes the possessor of a rentroll of about \$150,000 a year, and will soon be much richer from ground rents in Edinburgh.

Elizabeth Rider Wheaton, probably the best-known prison evangelist in this country, has visited every prison in every important city in the world. She has become known to most rail-road men, and receives annual passes over all the large lines in this country.

The Empress of Austria has taken, a disilite to the magnificent Villa

Fashion Notes.
Old-fashioned pink cameos are coming into vogue again, and the old-time setting is to be retained.

Old-fashioned pink cameos are coming into vogue again, and the old-time setting is to be retained.

Huguenot caps are added to the tops of many of the short, full, puffed sleeves of evening bodies.

Collars with stole ends are worn by the woman who loves frills. They can be fashioned by any deft fingers directed by taste.

Many of the demi-trained dress skirts are cut with nine gores, and at the back some are box-plaited and others fan-plaited.

Tho small pad bustle is now worn with the latest day costumes and evening toilets; and those of larger proportions are announced.

Cravats of white net, mull or liberty silk, trimmed with frills of lace, chiffon or net, are made easily and may be as simple or as elegant as time, skill and purse permit. Owing to their airy daintiness they seem especially suitable for gifts.

Among the handsome imported gowns seen at some recent openings, several were of black Chantilly lace, embroidered with steel or jet sequins and beads and made over black satin. It is predicted that lace costumes will be much worn in Paris next year.

Peplums, which are added to Russian blouses, jacket bodices, surplice waits and similar garments, are ahaped in various ways. Some are credelated, others cut in oval tabs or sharp Vandykes, and also in circular form, with or without plaits at the back.

Velvet is in high favor for smart

GOOD ROADS NOTES.

A most excellent departure has been made in Rhode Island, where a course of instruction in practical road-building has been instituted in the Agricultural College, at Kingston, and the papers, announce, with instituable exultation, that "this State leads the world" in such an undertaking.

The course of instruction is to extend over two years. In the classroom, theoretical instruction will be provided, and the road-making plant of the college will furnish ample opportunity for the acquirement of practical knowledge. Students, who wish to enter the course, must be well grounded in the common branches, including algebra and geometry. During the first year, the course will include higher geometry, trigonometry, surveying and other English studies. In the second year, physics, electricity, physiography, geology, mineralogy and steam engineering will be taken. The practical work will run side by side with the theoretical during the course. It will include actual work on the roads, handling the shovel, driving horses, running the stone crusher, traction engine and road roller, and all mechinery operated by the department. The student will thus actually perform all the varied operations connected with road-building, as well as receive competent instruction for older men, who now are superintendents of streets, commissioners of highways and engineers.

There is here a field which is not yet crowded, or even full, As the Providence Journal remarks, "of late years there has been a demand for competent road-builders all through the States that have been constructing macadam highways. In most instances, either theoretical engineers or highway superintendents have rise to fill the places. And to the sorrow and costs of the big cities and the disappointment of the country or the lack of theoretical knowledge of the civil engineers and the lack of theoretical knowledge of the civil engineers and the lack of theoretical knowledge of the civil engineers and the lack of theoretical knowledge of the civil engineers and the lack o

foundations.

The vehicle that uses wide tires is contributing its share toward better highways.

About two miles of asphalt, said to be the first in the State, have been laid

at Sioux City, Ia.

Over two hundred townships in

During the past year about three miles of new asphalt have been laid in Washington. New pavements in that city are to be of sheet or block asphalt or brick.

manentroads would benefit the favored sections to a far greater extent, and enable Congressmen to show something of practical value accomplished.

sections to a lar greater extent, as senable Congressmen to show something of practical value accomplished.

Fortunes on Their Backs.

J. A. Lizotte, of Lewiston, now in Alaska, writes to his brother, Max Lizotte, of Lewiston, that he is waiting for the Lewiston party, and will start up country toward Klondike the last of February. He is now at Skaguay, Alaska, again, and is having a suit of clothes made for his trip North. The cloth is nearly half an inch thick, all wool and a yard wide. He sends Max a piece of it. He says: "I am ghad that I did not go up to Dawson when I had the chance last fall. I could have gone for nothing, but thought it best to wait here. Now there are hundreds of people up there who are out of provisions and must starve this winter. The people are getting desperate up there, and there will be trouble. The mounted Canadian police are doing all they can to make a chance to get provisions in. A party of twenty-one men recently came down with two hundred thousand dollars among them in nuggets. One man brought down fifty pounds og gold on his back. Every day now parties go by here pushing on to-death and suffering. They seem crazed and will listen to no word of advice. The last steamer that went up the river with twelve tons of provisions was stopped half way up by a band of thirty men who robbed it of all the provisions and escaped. When the steamer got in and there were no provisions, terror seized everyone." He advises his brother to go to Alaska next year, and he says that he intends to.—Lewiston (Me.), Journal.

Alaska next year, and he says that he intends to.—Lewiston (Me.) Journal.

The Muskrat-Went Fishing.
Robert McWilliams, of near Sardis, is mourning the loss of about 1000 German carp which he was raising in a small pond he had constructed on his place. Mr. McWilliams had watched over his pets with jealous-care, and they were rapidly approaching that stage when they would be suitable for the table. The pond was fed by a sluice from a little run which gurgled along to one side of it. When the late drought was on the water in the run got so low it would not enter the pond through the sluice. The bottom of the pond was higher than that of the run. It was about this time that a muskrat took up his abode in the run. Now, muskrats like German carp as well as any man. This muskrat went fishing. One night he drove a tunnel from the run up into the bottom of the pond. The rush of water that must have come down the tunnel probably astonished his ratship. When Mr. McWilliams went out to see his fish the next morning the pond was almost dry, German carp sticking all around in the mud. In a little pool, all that was left of the pond, were several hundred carp, some of them still gasping for breach. Some of them were dipped out and placed in the watering trough. There was no way of saving the others, and they had to die in the mud. If that muskrat should come back to the McWilliams neighborhood he will be assured of rough treatment.—Kensington (Penn.) Keystone.

of rough treatment.—Kensington (Penn.) Keystone.

Farmer and Trainmen Attacked by Wolves Wolves are making life unhappy for Minnesota farmers.

Henry Fellen was attacked by a pack near Deerwood, on the Northern Pacific, recently and killed several before he drove them off. When he ran to the rescue the wolves attacked him.

Fellen climbed a tree, and, seated on a limb, began war on the beasts. He shot several of them, who were immediately torn to pieces by the others.

Fellen fired all the cartridges in his rifle, and was kept a prisoner in the tree by the animals for an hour or more, until a neighbor, who had heard the shooting and the howls of the wolves, came to the rescue.

Later in the evening the crew of a Northern Pacific train discharging a cargo at the Deerwood station, was attacked by wolves, supposed to be the remainder of the pack which had attacked Fellen. The men had just time to draw their revolvers and make for the train. Shrill blasts from, the whistle and the opening of the escape pipes for steam scared the wolves away.

Already a considerable amount of stock owned by the settlers has been killed by the animals, and people are afraid to go out of their homes after dark. The heavy snow and the intense cold are driving the wolves into the settlements.

Duck Eggs in an Albumen Factory.

Near Chinkiang, China, is a great albumen factory, for the utilization of the duck eggs which are produced in that region in enormous quantities, flocks of 4000 [and 5000 ducks being by no means uncommon. The 'eggs are broken at the rate of from 40,000 to 60,000 per day by women, who separate the white from the yolk, the former being carefully cleaned and dried until they resemble fish glue, when they are packed in 400-pound cases lined with zinc. The yolks are passed through seives into twenty-live gallon receptacles, mixed with a salt and borax solution, packed in 500-pound barrels, and used in Europe for preparing and dressing articles of superior quality. The albumen find a ready market in England, Frarve and Germany for dyes for the best extent goods.—Philadelphia Press.

ro brick.

It is said that the Governor of Missouri was almost alone in taking strong ground in favor of good roads in his message to the State Legislature last year. He is likely to have good company next time.

Why should Congress not cease dredging unnavigable streams and crecting expf asive buildings in out-of-the-way corners? The same money spentin aiding the establishment of personners and in the control of the contr