

Opinions of Great Papers on Important Subjects.

WORKINGMEN'S INSURANCE.



women of \$1.20, and from minors of 90 cents. Employ-ers are obliged to contribute a like amount for each person in their employ. The fund thus raised will be increased by additions from the national treasury. The existing old age pension scheme will be consolidated with the new system, which includes, like the German system, sick benefits and accident insurance. All State employes in France already are pensioned (and this includes railroad employes, miners and seamen). The new system will add about 17,000,000 working people, or practically all of the working people of the country. It is calculated that the State will have at first to contribute about \$36,000,000 a year, but it is believed that this will be gradually reduced in a few years to about \$25,000,000.-Indianapolis News.



THE POSTOFFICE DEPARTMENT. HE Postoffice Department of the United States is the largest business enterprise in the world, in the expenditures involved, the number of persons employed and the service rendered. There are many things about it of peculiar interest.

During the nineteenth century, and up to the present time, it has doubled its business once every ten years, except in two of the decades. This fact in itself is deeply significant. It necessitates methods of management which can expand with equal rapidity. and they, in turn, require change as well as growth. No other business offers such a problem; nor is the end even in sight so long as population increases.

There are many reasons why the Postoffice Department is just now a subject of serious study. It has always been conducted at a loss. It has long been considered that this would gradually be reduced in amount, until it should finally disappear. The facts, however, have not justified this belief. The ten-year doubling of the business has been accompanied by ex-penditures which have somewhat more than doubled during the same periods. That is not in accordance with the experience of the most successful private commercial enterprises, in which an increase of onetenth in the number of employes is often sufficient to care for a two-fold increase of business. It is prob-

able that the next few years may see radical changes in postomes organization and management. They are likely to include a divisional system, and a permanent superintendent, independent of political appointment. FTER many years of agitation France has followed the example and model of Germany in adopting a general scheme of -Youth's Companion. workingmen's insurance. Under this plan there is to be created an insurance fund

IN YE OLDEN TIMES.

OW many of us yearn for the time when as boys we dashed into the village store with: "Gimme a cent's worth of beeswax; here's y'egg!' and we like to think about the time when eggs were worth 5 cents a dozen and were sometimes such a glut in the market that the storekeeper would throw them into the river at night, though he bought them, as usual, for 5 cents a dozen traded out in cotton

cloth and such like, rather than discourage the farmer. Free to all stood the barrel of whiskey in the village store with a pint cup hanging beside it, for it was many years before the temperance wave swept the country, and whiskey was worth only a shilling a gallon. Butter sold at from 5 cents to a shilling, which, in Michigan, meant 12% cents or less. In a fine season potatoes brought about a shilling a bushel and the good provider flyed his cellar with vegetables and apples, banked the cellar walls and trusted winter weather to be just cold enough to keep everything in perfect con-dition.—Pittsburg Live Stock Journal.

ENGINEERING AND RECLAMATION.

O GIVE a clear conception of the achievements of the engineer in the reclamation of arid lands for crop production, some sta-tifics should be noted of the great scope of the series of projects. Nearly eight years have passed since the United States went into the business of turning the water upon the land, and up to date it has spent \$48,000,-

000. This money has been invested in twenty-eight projects, meaning dams, reservoirs, canals, machinery and the pay roll of the 12,000 workers in the irrigation service, from the engineers who surveyed the rivers and lakes, estimated the flow of water and planned the works, to the dollar-a-day man who fills the hundred miles of canal, serving a thousand acres, merely by twisting the wheel valve that lifts the water gate. Bixteen large rivers and seven lakes have been restrained to supply water to the arid lands in their vicinity, and at the present time 1,250,000 acres of reclaimed desert are being tilled and supporting 125,000 people.-Cassier's Magazine.

SOME OF THE WORST SELLERS.

Mard to Give Reason for Comparative Pallure of Certain Books.

Every one knows the names of the est sellers, which as a class began to make the staid publishing profession wild with excitement about a decade ago. But, their why and wherefore is hard to determine, especially when one cose how close to them in all respects are many books which, with no derogatory intention, may be called the worst sellers.

Astedating "Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde" by some years, Julian Haw-thorne's "Archibald Malmaison," the story of a man who led two separate existences, though thrilling, unusual and full of dramatic possibilities, nev-ertheless sank into oblivion, scarcely MARK TWAIN'S LIFE REVIEWED.

OLD AND NEW BANTA PE TRATLE

Spiendid Prospecity of Kansas Il-Instrated in the Difference.

The old "Santa Fe trail" was one of

the most important factors in the early development of the western coun-try. It was the pioneer highway, blas-ing the way for the railroads that were to come later, but the earlier associations and what it meant to the people whom it introduced to new e-periences and new opportunities have not been lost sight of. The settlers who made their homes on either side of it when it was the one well-known highway in Kass the one well-known highway in Kansas have become with their descendants as important ele-ment in the industrial, social and political life of the middle west. Sentiment for this old path of civilization still lingers and is now to have ex-pression in a new "Santa Fe trail," or, as it is more ambitiously termed at this time, "The Arkansas Valley speed-

Work has already begun this spring upon the enterprise, the Boston Transcript says. It contemplates a dirt road 30 feet in width, beginning at Hutchinson, Kas., and running nearly the whole length of the western half of the State. Twelve countles are in-terested in it and seven are now engaged in the work of construction. When it reaches the Colorado line the counties of that State will take it up and carry it as far as Pueblo, with the probability that it will be etxended to Colorado Springs and Denver.

A dozen years ago such an am bitious scheme of public and interstate improvement in that section would hardly have been dreamed of. much less undertaken. Prosperity and a stimulated public spirit have worked wonders, but the main incentive has been the general ownership of auto-mobiles. Among the farmers along the old trail, it is said one in every three possesses one of the new machines, and more are every year coming. Two years ago the Kansas farm-ers spent \$2,750,000 for automobiles. Last year they spent \$3,200,000, and the present year the purchases will be much larger. Between the "Old Santa Fe trail" and the new what transformations have taken place, what stirring chapters of history have been made!



Exports of Hungarian beans to the United States in 1909 were of the value of \$1,170,000.

The army of foreigners arriving on our shores during the last year reached a total of 751,786.

Prussian statistics show that the reer, and supplements most satisfac-torily the reminiscences themselves. Where the system of culture is most intensive.

Canada's public debt on February 28, 1910, was \$328,655,880 net, an in-crease of \$20,600,000 in 12 months. The increase is small compared with the great rallway work Canada is doing or aiding

London's newest music hall seats four thousand persons. St. Peter's capersons. Milan cathedral hold 4,000 40,000. St. Paul's in London, has seen 26,000 within its walls. Mrs. Charles G. Ames was elected president of the School Voters' League, which has just been organized in Boston. The object of the league is to study school matters and school conditions and to help to better them. The coal and iron mines and the sait works owned and operated by the kingdom of Prussia employed last year 89,723 men and turned out products worth \$58,171,960, or about 4 per cent "My naughty little son," quoth I as he Lay flat across my stiff paternal knee Face downward, and for some small bit greater than in 1908. Coal formed 53,411,960 of the output.



A new blography of Harrison Ainsworth is coming from the press. It is supposed that some of Ainsworth's forty-one novels are still read-though they can hardly be called literature. "Types from City Streets" is the ti-"Types from City Streets" is the tr-tie of the forthcoming book in which Hutchins Hapgood has undertaken to describe the underworld of New York. II is traced back to David, king of israel and Judah.

charm. Jane Austin is the newest literary discovery of French critics. One of them declares that she forms the one striking exception to the insanity of historian, and Maelgwyn of Llandaff. cenius. He calls her the first of the a writer of the fifth century; Jos realists, a writer absolutely normal of Arimathea, Lazarus, the and sane. Mary, Martha, Mary the Magdalen and

others found refuge in this colony and made their first converts to the Chris-tian faith ten years before the found-ing of the Church of Rome. From the fact that the word "Hebrews" In the writing of the authoritative life of Karl Marz, which is among the spring publications, the author, John Spargo, has had the assistance of Mme. Lafargue, Marz's daughter. Marz's friends have also assisted the author in gathering reliable material for his volume. means "those who have crossed the flood," they infer that the episte bearing that name was addressed to the Hebrew Christian church in Eng for his volume. A vivid picture of the state of land.

A vivid picture of the state of France at the accession of Louis XVI. is to be found in the Marquis de Se-gur's new book, "The Setting Sun of the Monarchy." The author apparent-ly believes that Turget might have saved the monarchy had not Marie Antoinette's prejudice against him sent him into retirement.

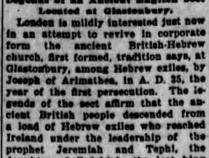
A good example of the spelling of three hundred years ago as well as an interesting presentation of the customs and manners of the period is given in F. W. Moorman's biographi-cal and critical study of the poet Robert Herrick, to be published soon. Dr. foorman quotes a letter written by John Eyrick, as the poet's grandfath-er spelled his name, to his son Nicholas on the occasion of the latter's marriage, which reads as follows: "Bonne Nicholas Eyrick, your mother and I have us commended unto your bedfellowe and you; for I trust now that ye be a married man; for I hard by your brother Stenford that youe

that of preacher. Professing, in common with other Protestant churches, that the Bible only is their sole rule of faith and practice, the British Israel Ecclesia, as they designate themselves, are anti-Trinitarian in theology.' They hold, nevertheless, the doctrine of the di-vinity of Jesus Christ and the same-tite of the Wole Shrift They also tity of the Holy Spirit. They also by your brother Stenford that youe weir appointed to marry on Monday the tenth of December; and if you be maryed we pray God to send youe bothe muche joye and comfort togeth-er, and to all hir friends and yours." hold strong views on the necessity for observing Saturday as the Sabbath and look for the establishment of Messianic kingdom on earth in which the Jewish race will be predominant. "Some Musical Recollections of Fifty For further confirmation of their Years," by Richard Hoffman, is a late tenets they point to the fact that the word British is from the Hebrew publication. The delightful reminis-cences of Mr. Hoffman are prefaced "brit," a covenant, and they conclude by a memoir by Mrs. Hoffman which gives briefly and very pleasantly the main facts of her husband's long catherefrom that the British race are the covenant people. The stone in the British coronation chair in Westminster Abbey, they assert, is not Jacob's pillow, but part of the rock from which Mose smote and out of which water flowed.

secount of how as a boy of 14 he made the journey from Manchester, En-gland, his native city, to Birmingham, to hear Felix Mendelssohn conduct the "Elijah." When 16 years old he came to America, and from that time

Wit of the Youngsters on he gives most entertaining and interesting accounts of all the musical *************** celebrities who came to America and Little Margie's mother was playing one of Wagner's most strenuous pieces Custle Garden, New York, and his on the piano, and after she had finfour of the West and East (including ished, Margie asked: "Mamma, were Canada) with Joseph Burke, of their you playing a piece or dusting the expenses and receipts, and the reception they met with, of Jenny Lind's arrival and singing in New York and Little Joe-Mamma, I wish you of her tour with him under P. T. would lend me 50 cents. Mamma-Barnum's management, of Thalbers and Gottschalk, von Bulow, and their What do you want it for, dear? Little Joe-Uncle Tom is going to give tours, make this a most valuable and me a bird dog, and I want to buy a charming review of the musical his cage for him. tory of America. Minnie, aged 5, was spending a week My Son and 1.

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daughter of Zedekiah, the last king

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Mary Cholmondeley achieved cess with her "Red Pottage," but sold very few copies of "Diana Tempest," which most critics find not only no inferior to the successful work but even superior in interest, dramatic strength and construction.

Yet the best sellers passed it by and no one could tell the reason.

"The Garden of Allah" added jewels of a very material kind to the crown of its author, Robert Hichens. But "Flams." by the same author and also regarded as the better piece of work many critics, fell by the wayaide and has not sold more than 3,000 cop ies since its first publication in 1894.

"Belchamber," written by Howard Sturgist, younger brother of the author of "The Folly of Penharrington," would naturally be supposed to appeal to that great class among which nov els dealing with English society at first hand is generally popular. But undentable signs of intimate acquaint ance with English society and work admittedly well done did not keep the book from shooting wide of the mark of public favor. Yet it resembles so losely many others that hit and hit hard that one wonders what the reason was, all the more since one of the best known of English dukes, but thinly disguised, is to be recognized in the principal character.

Of a decidedly different order, "The Hill," by Horace A. Bachell, a boy's book, has been compared very favorably by critics to "Tom Brown" itself, the New York Sun says. Much was expected of it, as it was thought to fill all the requirements it was expected to meet-but alas!

Many novels burled under the overwhelming flood of best sellers can thus be ferreted out and when laid open to inspection appear much as the best ones themselves often being an own brother. And most often no one can and the explanation.

Resolutions.

& ain't a goin' to git mad When the gas man comes aroun', With a bill that looks as I'd furnished

Gas for half the town. I won't fume an' flare an' throw a fit. An' tear my hair an' cusa. When the stovepipe comes a-tumblin'

down, An' makes an awful muss.

Or if when I have gone to bed, The telephone should ring, An' to my bare an' tender feet, I'd quickly have to spring. find there's nothin' doin' An' they've rung me by mistake I'll simply swaller down my rage An' bear the cold an' shake

An' all the other cares of life I'm goin' to ignore. There ain't no pesterin' troubles Goin' to hurt me any more; For I've made resolutions That I'm goin' to keep or bust. An' I'm never goin' to worry Or git mad until I must. lianapolis News.

What has become of the old-fashaned man who sat around down town mtil noon, and then said, as he start-away: "Well, I'll go home and if the neighbors have brought in ythirgt



STAYED IS THE HAND THAT MADE THE WORLD LAUGH AND WEEF Born near Hannibal, Mo., November 30, 1835.

Left school to work as "devil" in his brother's printing office in Hanni when 12 years old. bal

Worked as an itinerant printer in différent cities in the Middle West. Became a pilot's apprentice on the Mississippi river, under the direction of Capt. Horace Bixby, of St. Louis.

Served a few weeks in the Confederate Army and went West with his brother Orion, who had been appointed secretary of the territory of Nevada.

Worked in Nevada mining camps and as correspondent and writer for Virginia City (Nev.) Enterprise and the Sacramento (Cal.) Union. the Published his first book, "The Jumping Frog of Calaveras County," in

March, 1867. Made famous by "The Innocents Abroad," published in 1869.

Married in 1870 to Miss Olivia L. Langdon, of Elmira, N. Y., whom he met while on a cruise in the Mediterranean, and who died in Florence, Italy, in 1904. Organized the C. L. Webster Publishing Co. in 1884, and lost almost his

entire fortune through the firm's failure in 1894.

Given the honorary degree of Doctor of Laws by Oxford University, England, in 1907.

Retired to his villa, "Stormfield," near Redding, Conn., in 1908, to live with his daughters, Clara and Jean.

Journeyed to Bermuda late in 1909 and returned broken in health and spirit. He failed rapidly after the sudden death' of his daughter Jean, December 24, 1909.

knowing it, that she will go back next HOW THEY MARRY IN ARAN. month if no one wishes to marry her. Mourteen Michael Bawn will be ask Marriage Customs in Which a ing her if his great uncle, who is dy-ing, leaves him his cottage and field. Doesn't Choose His Wife. In her article on the Aran islands, But the old man may not die before

off the coast of Ireland, in Harper's, the steamer sails.' Maude Radford Warren tells of some "Darragh Shuan said this amusing marriage customs obtained gravely. "The most desirable consort is a m

"The marriages are made by the par or girl returned from America, for they always have money. About 25 ents, and frequently the couple never speak to each other alone until after per cent of the population go to Amer-ica and most of them come back, for they love their islands so dearly that the wedding. "But ought a man not to choose his own wife?" Darragh Shuan, the

fisherman, was asked. "'Let you listen to me,' said Dar

there.

ragh Shuan, leaning back on his curagh on the beach of Inishmore. He pointed first to a thin line of green on a plateau of rock, and then to a tion they have cast behind." tiny cottage lonely against a gray crag. 'If that field were my father's,' ex-plained Darragh Shuan, 'and if I was thinking of a girl in that cottage there, and if my father did not like the girl, jury." then he would not give me that field. Then what would I be doing? It has

"It has to be-that is the word of the islands. "There is a girl back from Amer

ica,' said Darragh Shuan, 'and she is having sinty pounds of her own. She has told the priest and we are all

Johnny had two presents at the ame time-one a diary, which he kept very carefully, and the other a peashooting popgun, which he fired in-discriminately on all occasions. One day his mother found the following. terse record in his diary: cold and sloppy, Toosdy cold and sloppy. Wensdy cold and sloppy shot gramma."

In a California tows a drummer brought the hotel porter up to his room with his angry storming. "Want your room changed, mister?" politely queried the porter. "Room changed! Not" fumed the drummer. "It's the fiens I object to, that's all!" "Mrs. Leary," should the parter to the housekeeper down below, "the gent in No. 11 is satisfied with his room, but

he wants the fleas changed." LOCATING TRUFFLES.

The Hunter Works with a Trainer Pig and a Pointed Staff. The truffes looked exactly like white

potatoes that had been very thoroug ly dusted with powdered cinnam They were the size of white potat and they had the white potato's irre

ular shape. "On the way to the Riviera," said "On the way to the Hiviera," said the host, "I stopped at Marseilles in order to see a truffler, or truffle gath-erer, at work. Truffles come only from France. They cost aves over there, about \$5 a pound. The taste? Well, mushroomy, but much richer. "Our Marseilles truffler carried a pointed staff. His indispensable col-

VOFT aborator was a trained pig on a i The pig was like any other, only anout was longer and batter develop "We spectators had hardly wall 100 yards over the fields when the

foot of an over the fields when the stopped and began to root near foot of an oak. The truffer hel him to dig with the pointed staff. So truffes appeared a foot undergrou and the truffer pushed the pig an threw it an acorn and put the tru they only go away, as it were, in order to stay in them. Many of those who return die of consumption, but many ore regain whatever health they have lost and marry, reverting to their old ways, with no regret for the civilian

in his bag. "He found, or, rather, his pig for

a dozen truffes in the hour we wetched him. At every find the pig was re "Now, your conduct during the trias warded with an acors. These p cost \$60 apieco. The man made ab \$4 that morning. may have considerable effect on the

4 that morning One difficulty encountered by man who goes home to forget cares and worries of the business is a long list of home made wees a make him anzious to go has make him anzious to go has

"Ab, quite so," responded the ultra swell defendant. "And should I ap-pear interested or just mildly bored?" -Kannas City Journal.

Doesn't it often occur to you the the devil has a grudge against you? What is a positive fact"

Courtroom Mitquette.

A cycle is always a lint

Minnie, aged 5, was spending a week in the country and heard her grand-ma say the hens were not laying as well as they had been doing. "Well, don't worry, grandma," said Minnie, "I spose they got tired of laying and thought they would stand awhile."

The Galy Chas

ame.

The police force of London arts

My lady to perfect guits. Her same is Brown, her same. Her disposition's sweet and br

Pray bear in mind that every single Spanks Hor Musband.

herewith lay athwart your aching Hurts me ten times as much as it doer day:

Each stinging slap of all the twenty two Is like a hundred lashes unto me And pains me grievously."

His roars he stayed, and to the dampened floor

tears that he'd been shedding ran no more. "Is that true, father, dear?" he

Was tasting discipline,

His squirmings coasing quite tibly.

of sin

whack

you.

"I grieve to say it is, my lad," I cried, As lustily the hair brush I applied. "Each whack of this small hair brush gives me pain The like of which I hope that ne'er

again I'll have to suffer." Whereupon the child

Right sweetly smiled. And then he thus apostrophised me:

"Pop. If that's the case I beg you will not

But lay it on as hard as you know

I rather like it now." John Kendrick Bangs in Success.

Exact Obedience.

A lady staying in a hotel was fright-ened by a noise like that of a person running about in a room over the one she occupied. In "How to be Happy Though Civil," the Rev. E. J. Hardy

ils the story:

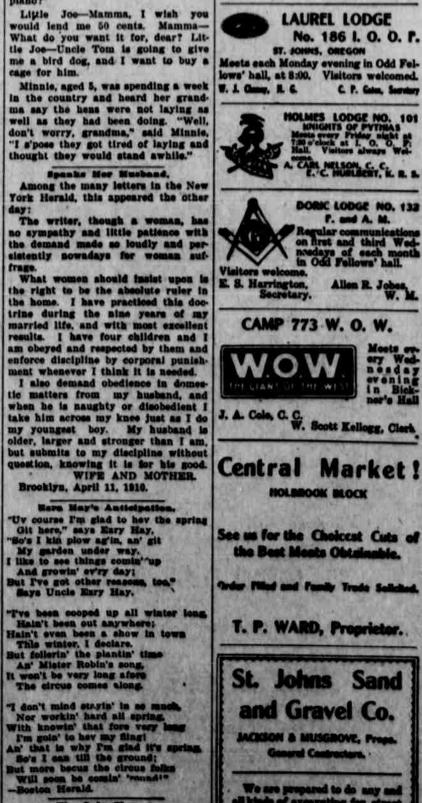
tells the story: The noise went on at intervals for two nights, and then changed, as if the occupant on the floor above had gone mad and was skipping about. The indy did not believe in ghosts, but she was atraid of them, so ahe asked the proprietor to investigate the mystery. It was a sick foreigner obeying the imperfectly understood directions of ah English medical man. "Take the medicine two nights running, then akip a night."

The Resson

Guest at a restaurant-Excuse me, it, can you let me come to the tele-bone? You have been there twenty minutes without sawing a word. "Sorry, sir, but 'I'm talking to my wife."--Pale Mele.

When a man makes a lot of mo-be prepio look of him on II to New what Share of that do you and to give to your wild's him?

ant year mans than 30



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