THE SNOW-CAPPED PLANET.

The Development of Mars---Have Our Martial Neighbors Canals ?---Mapping the Planet.

New York Sun 1 Perhaps the most interesting celestial event of the year will be the opposition of Mars at the end of the present month. There is so much about this remarkable planet that suggests a close resemblance to the earth, and so many of its surface features and of the natural processes occurring upon it are visible with telescopic aid, that every time it comes to opposition, that is, gets into a line with the earth and the sun, the earth being in the middle, a battery of telescopes is turned upon it with eager expectation of interesting views if not of important discoveries. At opposition Mars appears with small telescopic power like a full moon of a ruddy tinge. As the magnifying power is increased one detail after another of the diversified surface of this distant world comes into view, until it hangs in the field of the telescope a real globe, marked plainly with continents, oceans, and islands, and partially covered with clouds.

The first physical features of Mars that come into view are the snow-caps surrounding his poles. The southern pole is now inclined toward the earth, and a small telescope, say of three inches aperture, will plainly show the circular, gleaming patch of snow that covers the antarctic region of the globe of Mars. The dark ring surrounding the snow-field and sometimes called Philip's sea is almost equally distinct, and some of the other seas or spots that are believed to be seas can be seen with the same telescope. larger telescope more details are visible; and with the largest and best of all the various features of Martian geography which are represented on some of the wonderfully complete maps of Mars that have been constructed, can be seen. What a surprising thing it is that men have been able to make maps and globes representing, with a high degree of completeness, the surface of a world never much less than 40,000,000 miles distant from the earth!

Large telescopes will, during the present opposition also, be able to show the two tiny moons of Mars, which revolve close to the planet, so rapidly that the inner one goes through all the changes from new moon to old moon in less than a day.

Another interesting thing about Mars which can now be studied is the mysterious network of so-called canals which cover a large portion of the planet's surface, particularly in the equatorial regions. The idea that there are canals constructed by inhabitants of the ruddy planet can hardly be entertained when it is known that they are sixty miles and more in width.

One thing seems to be pretty certain: Mars has reached a much larger stage of planetary development than the earth, and if it has inhabitants they may possibly have attained a degree of civilizaincomprehensible to us. At any rate, it is a wonderful world that now beams as a ruddy star in our winter

Sunday in Constantinople. Foreign Cor. San Francisco Chronicle.]

But if, however, business does not step its wheels on a Friday, the Turkish Sunday is a gala day for the women, the idlers and the tourists. Early in the morning the narrow streets leading out of Pera are crowded with people going in the direction of the great avenue that leads to the winter palace. Their picturesqueness alone makes bearable the fact that they do not smell good. As I saw them, high state dignitaries passed in open carriages, pashas and officers, followed by their orderlies, scattered the crowd as they galloped by. By them ran beggars in all stages of profitable disease and disfigurement, who screamed dolefully for alms and only desisted as their wind gave out. Yet these same beggars garnered a very pretty harvest of piasters in the course of the morning. Turkish women were plenty, in the most gaudy colors, their faces veiled and their dainty yellow slippers kept out of the mud by pattens six inches high.

Omnipresent were the venders of water, coffee and shorbet. The Turkish law allows no stronger drinks to be sold in public, and these fellows reaped rich harvests, retailing their wares at a quarter-piaster (about an American cent) a glass to the thirsty crowd. Equally a nuisance were the dealers in nuts and anise-seed cakes-the latter wares made round and carried strong on long sticks. There is something peculiarly aggressive in the way a Turk does business. For a bargain of an eighth of a cent he will shout and swing his arms and almost come to blows. In fact, on the streets in Constantinople everybody shouts, no matter whether he is bargaining or not, and the result in such a crowd is pandemo-

Perhaps the most curious figures were the cunuchs. Following the popular idea, I had expected them to be small and abortive in development. On the contrary, they are large and wellalmost perfectly-formed, and would be conspicuous anywhere for their fine appearance and graceful carriage. Today there are practically no white eunuchs in Turkey. The law allows only black. Most of these come from Egypt or Nubia. They are sleek and wellfed, wear modern clothes, long ulsters of Paris cut, and carry more style than the porter of a Pullman car. The crowd showed representatives of every shade of color, from black to purest white. Fortunately all were goodnatured, for otherwise there would have been innumerable fights from the abandonment with which they shoved and elbowed each other along.

Old Hickory's Orthography.

[Chicago Herald.] Somebody has been unearthing a lot of old depositions in a Kentucky clerk's office, and taking notes of the bad spelling of some of the great men of the past. deposition in the handwriting Andrew Jackson contains such spelling as "refference," "deponants," untill," "ballance," "vallue," and "difficult." Old Hickory's use of capitals was quite remarkable. Such words as "Dollar" and "Money" he capitalized, while he also wrote "almighty god."

The Probabilities of Personal Hon

[Detroit Free Press.] At half-past 7 o'clock the triangle sounded, the Glee club sang an ode entitled "Don't You Lick a Lamp Post,"

and Brother Gardner said: "De y'ar 1883 am passed an' gone. Its cyclones, airthquakes, floods, fires, joys an' sorrows am no mo'. De y'ar 1884 has been bo'n, an' de chile am doin' as well as kin be suspected under the sar-cumstances. At de present time we all feel what poo', contemptible sinners we am, an' we resolve to do better. A New Y'ar's resolushun am not worf de powder to blow it across de sidewalk, but at de same time if I can h'ar of a single member of dis club who hasn't resolved to live a better life from dis time hencefo'th I'll fine him \$16,000. Let us now agitate de reg'lar programmy of bizness."

Brother Hamiltonian Smith arose to make an inquiry. He had often been asked if it was forbidden in the constitution or by-laws of the Lime-Kiln club for a member to hold a position under the state or United States government.

"I should reckon it wasn't!" replied the president, as Smith sat down. members of dis club kin hold any sort o' posishun dey kin git, from sellin' red lemonade in de big circus tent to conductin' de pension buro at Washington. De only by-law on desubjeck am to forbid de elub, as a club, from givin' bonds fur de honesty of any member holdin' a posishun whar' he kin do any stealin'.'

Major Chapultepec Green secured the floor to inquire if the president intended to be understood as doubting the honesty of members of the club? That is, if Waydown Bebee, for instance, was a clerk in the city treasurer's office and had a chance to lay his hands upon \$10,000, would be do it?

"He probably would, sah! Dat is, dar' am so many probabilities dat he would pocket de money an' skip fur Yurrup dat de club wouldn't go on his bond. When white men all ober de kentry am daily sellin' out dair reputation fur honesty fur a few hundred dollass apiece, it wouldn't be safe to leave a black man alone wid a package countin' up into de thousands.'

Gambling. ["Gath" in New York Tribune.] Gambling may be the unanticipated destroyer of modern civilization. The riots of 1877 have sometimes been debited to stock gambling. San Francisco, rising like another Ilium, let in the Trojan horse of the Comstock lode. and next was Kearney, Kalloch and the sand lots. Another insurrection in Spain lately was charged to a stock gambling coterie between Paris and Madrid at the same instant we were apprised of it. The French war in Anam. which may be a string to pull all Asia together, is charged to schemes to launch stock projects on the Paris Bourse and pluck France of her plethoric wealth. Maximilian died for a stock bubble and for the same the Napoleons went out. Egypt revolts and Alexandria turns to ashes when a French "projector" tempts the son of Mehemet Ali into his broker's shop. The vast indemnity Germany took from France was burnt up in limited liability companies. Great maritime corporations no competition could put down have yielded in England to operations in the directory and stand limp and sick. Peru and Bolivia nearly perish under a conquest from speculations in nitre and guano. Our own land was the basis of a speculation that overthrew the French monarchy seventy years later, when for dukedoms and marquisates in Arkansas Law's Louisiana shares went up 4,000 per cent. Tocqueville, fifty years ago, considered division of labor in the factories the only influence probable to subvert democracy with feudality. He did not see gambling, though Biddle and the bank had just been ruined.

## A Messenger Boy's Long Trip. [Baltimore San.

A bright faced, red-headed boy, 14 years old, dressed in the uniform of a messenger lad, called at a pawn store Saturday and threw a pawn ticket for a gold chain on the show case and said: Gimme that chain."

Mr. Lewyt looked at the ticket, which he at once recognized. "The man to whom this ticket belongs is in New York," he remarked to the boy.

"Well, that's just where I came from," said the boy. The little fellow then said that on Saturday afternoon a call came to the Seventy-second street office, east side, New York city, for a messenger boy. This lad was sent to a wellto-do gentleman's house in answer to the summons. The caller had pawned a valuable chain, heirloom, during his visit to Baltimore a few days ago, when he was out of money. He wanted to wear the chain on Sunday, but could not get it in time, as no express would reach him on that day. The boy was to bring the pawn ticket here, pay the \$25 advanced on the chain, also the interest, and get back as soon as he could. The gentleman was to pay his fare here and back, incidental expenses, and give him besides 6 cents an hour extra pay.

The boy was back in New York Saturday night with the chain, fifteen hours after he started.

How Joaquin Miller Works. Joaquin Miller, the ever tuneful poet of the Sierras, is a hard worker. writes his graphic Sunday sketches for The Courier-Journal, guides the destinies of a serial story in Wakeman's Current, will be represented in the coming St. Nicholas, drops into poetry for the leading magazines, in his odd moments writes a play, and on off days runs down to Washington from New York and superintends a new house he is building there.

## Effect of Mineral Waters.

[Medical Journal.] From experiments upon dogs, Lewaschew and Klikowitch have concluded, that the effect of ordinary natural mineral waters is to increase the quantity of bile and to make it more fluid and This increased flow is beneficial in freeing the gall-bladder from stagnant bile. The action of artificial solutions of alkaline salts, as well as of hot water, was found to be similar to that of the natural mineral waters.

A PLEA FOR ALMANACS.

The Almanae of the Old Settlers. Suggestion for Publishers to Con-

[Chicago Times.] One of the first publications in this country that attracted great attention at home and abroad was "Poor Richard's Almanac," which was compiled and published by Benjamin Franklin. wise maxims contained in publication became "house hold words" in almost every family in the land. They ranked They ranked next to the proverbs of Solomon. Undoubtedly they contributed much to the name. thrift of the early settlers of the country. Books were scarce and newspapers almost unknown outside of large towns. The almanac was the book for daily reference. It was studied almost as critically as the bible. Before the year had ended, almost every member of the family had committed its contents to memory. Old almanacs were carefully filed away for the benefit of future generations. Not unfrequently they were bound and placed in the library.

The almanac of "Poor Richard" was

succeeded by others of almost equal value, which contained a large amount of useful information. Besides the calendar of each month, there were the names of the officers of the nation and and state, the times of holding court. the fees of various officials, college registers, business forms, interest tables, an abstract of the postal laws, the time of the occurrence of eclipses, and various other things of timely importance. It was thought necessary for every well-regulated family to have an almanae before the commencement of the new year.

The decline in reliable almanacs in this country dates from the advent of patent medicines. The enterprising proprietors of these nostrums published enormous editions of so-called medical almanacs, heaped the counters of groceries and drug stores with them, and caused them to be distributed from house to house. In many cases they issued editions in various languages, and gave them away, and the free almanacs thus destroyed the market for those that were only disposed of for a price. The free almanacs, however, were very dear in the end, for they induced people to purchase millions of dollars' worth of useless if not harmful nostrums.

It is time to revive the publication of almanacs of the better sort. Their publication has never been discontinued in Great Britain and the countries on the continent of Europe. A journal in the former country devotes two columns to a review of the almanaes issued for the present year. Some of them appear to be volumes of considerable size and to contain a vast amount of information. A few are largely devoted to the wants of special classes, as shippers, miners, teachers, merchants and scholars. One is chiefly given to the discussion of domestic problems as applied to every-day life. Another is designed for the dissemination of freetrade principles.

The family almanac, as a means of doing good in various ways, has not recently been appreciated in this country. The Humane society could hardly make a better use of a part of its funds than by publishing an almanae that would have the care of animals and birds. The manufacturers and venders of quack medicines, fertilizers and dime novels should not be allowed to monopolize the publication of a class of reading matter that goes into every family living outside of the large cities, and which is attentively and carefully studied. The influence of the family almanae can hardly be overestimated.

Familiar Lines of an Old-Time Poet.

It appears that a number of our familiar phrases are the expressions of an almost forgotten English poet, the year 1515, and died when Shakespeare was but 16 years old.

The following quotations are given as illustrations:

A stone that is rolling can gather no moss, Better late than never.

All's fish they get That cometh to net.

Look ere thou leap, see ere thou go. Except wind stands as never it stood, It is an ill wind that turns none to good. Time tries the troth in everything.

God sendeth and giveth both mouth and the

## A Prentice Chestnut.

The Courier-Journal says that the late George D. Prentice was once playing at poker on a Mississippi steamer. Prentice bet a thousand on his hand; his opponent raised him five hundred; Prentice raised a thousand; his opponent raised him five hundred; Prentice again raised the stake a thousand. "Mr. Prentice," said the opponent, confidently, "you are betting more than your hand is worth." Prentice looked at his hand, turned it down on the table, and said: "Sir, if I were playing with Jupiter at a star ante, I would darken the everlasting firmament on the hand I have just turned down."

Poisoning Rabbits.

The last report of the New Zealand Agricultural society reveals that its managers have found it necessary to resort to the wholesale use of poison in order to prevent their crops from being entirely destroyed by rabbits. During the three years which ended in October last more than 500,000 pounds of poisoned oats were scattered over the company's estates, with the result that nearly three millions of skins were picked up and brought to market.

Had to Drop Him,

Yes," said young De Smyth, as he pensively chalked the end of his cue. "Jack was my oldest and best friend, but he married a girl from the suburbs who wasn't nice in society, so, of course, I had to drop him. My shot?"

"Reyal Bob,"

A writer in a Detroit paper gives the following account of how Robert G. Ingersoll came to be called by the ma-jestic title, "Royal Bob." The first ington after his return from Montor sciences.

Bob Ingersoll and several more of his admirers went to the depot to meet him. As the president-elect stepped off the car Ingersoll went forward, held out his hand, and said: "How are you, gen-Garfield smiled and replied "Royal, Bob." A reporter wrote up an account of the meeting between the president and the noted infidel; but the intelligent compositor and the still more intelligent proof-reader consigned to an early and unhonored grave the comma between "Royal" and "Bob," so that next morning it appeared in the paper as "Royal Bob." This spread throughout the United States, and hence the

BEAUTY A-SLEIGHING.

On the Road Feminine Ugliness Is Bare and Prize Beauties Common.

[Inter Ocean New York Letter.] The sleighing gives wealth a chance to vary its display. The fashionable thing on runners is the Russian vehicle, with plumes at its front corners, and drawn by three horses abreast, the middle beast bearing a high arc of jingling bells. Great quantities of costly fur are in and over the sleigh and on the harness. The men and women who ride thus conspicuously are by no means so uniformly fine to look at. They are of all sorts and conditions, socially, morally and intellectually, and I am bound to say that in none of these respects is the truth indicated by appearnces. The incidental racing, too, is helter-skelter and democratic. The deacon and the gambler speed their trotters alongside. But if these men are a fair average of all men in the matter of face, the same is not true of the women.

"Probably you havn't any notion, unless you have bestowed some thought on it," said my sleigh companion, after she had scrutinized the visages of many of her own sex on the road, "how disproportionately large is the amount of beauty shown in places of pleasure; and it gets more so as the cost of the diversion increases. Go to church and you will strike a true average. Go to the theatre, and you will see a considerably bigger proportion of pretty girls. Go to the more expensive operas and the percentage of beauties go up. Here on the road ugliness is rare and loveliness common. "The reason is that men let good looks

decide them in choosing a girl to take out, and the more alluring the sport the likelier it is to fetch out the prize beauties. It is really too bad on the homely girls, for only wealth or unusual mental qualities can command for them such jolly amusements as this. I'm the exception that proves the rule."

No matter whether she was sincere as to herself; but she was right about the rest of it. Beauty abounded on the road. Furthermore, and lamentable in another way than she had intimated, the beauty was too often of a notorious kind. It was possessed in a quite shocking degree by chorus girls from the comic operas, ballet girls from the spectacles, adventuresses of divers grades; and the proble point in the exhibition was that me men who shared seats with them were by no means all of a kindred character, but were numerously sons of respected families, who ought to have been ashamed of their positions, but were proud instead. There is no direction in which the idle be put into the hands of persons who and moneyed young fellows of this city are drifting worse or faster than to this public association with professional beauties. It is in imitation of the English aristocracy. Ridicule has no re-pressive effect. A spanking law might be good.

> What Can It Mean? [Olive Logan.]

You and I, who belong neither to the one class nor to the other, who are observers merely, shut out from splendor's highest expression, yet spared squalor's keenest miseries, can but look at each other and exclaim in Thomas Tusser, who was born about amazement, "What can it mean? What is this fearful secret of life, which condemns one man to a hand-to-hand fight with hunger from his cradle to his grave and laps the other in downy luxury, softer than the plumage of the swan's white breast, feeds his baby lips with a golden spoon, and lays his embalmed corpse in a monument, whose cost would 'erect a hundred cottages to shelter many more than a hundred human beings as irresponsible,

> as worthy as himself?" The Bunko Man's Victims.

New York Tribune The class from which the professional swindler's victims are usually drawn consists largely of people who are dishonest within limitations. They will not subject themselves to legal pains and penalties, but they will get the better of their neighbors whenever it can be done safely. It is because there is so considerable an admixture of knavery in the conduct of many of the victims of these professional swindlers that the latter are enabled to ply their vocation so boldly and with such immunity.

Anniversary Extraordinary.

[Texas Siftings.] Mrs. Junebug invited several of her friends to come to her house on a certain day, as she was going to celebrate her 25th birthday. At the dinner table Mrs. J. said:

"This day is also the anniversary of sorrow to me-my father's death. "Indeed! And how long has your father been dead?" asked one of the guests.

"Twenty-eight years," replied Mrs. Junebug.

> That Settles It. [Nym Crinkle.]

If to be monotonous is to be gifted; if to be one good actor in a group is to be representative; if to walk a chalk line is to go upward; if to present one repertoire in one way for twenty-five years and to get the same unvarying eulogiums for its success-then Mr. Booth, no less than Joe Jefferson, deserves well of fame, and need bother no more about what other people do.

Rev. F. H. Barrows, D. D.: We make a mistake in writing too many essays about religion, instead of preaching simply and directly and with fiery time President Garfield visited Wash- carnestness to people's hearts and conLEGS AND ARMS.

An Art by Which Portions of the Human Anatomy Are Successfully Duplicated.

[Chicago Herald.] "You want to know how artificial limbs are made? Why that question could hardly be answered in volumes, ejaculated the doctor, when the reporter pressed his question. He then opened a large glass case and pointed to an artificial leg, which, had it not been for the somewhat livid color of the enamel, would have led the observer to believe it had just been severed from the body. 'Now, here," said the doctor, "is the

best anatomical leg in the market. It sounds funny, doesn't it, to speak of 'legs in the market?' I'll try to give you an idea as well as I can without the aid of illustrations. The ankle joint is formed by a ball of polished glass, plying in a socket of vulcanite of India rubber, which is a joint that admits of every motion that the natural ankle does, without exception. It is the first joint ever invented which never requires oiling. At the base of the calf of the leg there are four India rubber springs, which take the place of the muscles of the natural leg. From these springs the tendons, with screw-heads on the upper end, pass to the ankle joint, and the nuts serve to regulate the tension of the tendons and springs to suit the wearer. The knee joint is formed by an axial bolt plying in two segments of a circle, one of which is adjustable to prevent looseness and noise. A spring operates the knee-joint and carries the foot forward at each step, with any degree of motion desired to suit the peculiar gait of the wearer. It is made from India rubber, and adjustable like the others. The motion of the kneejoint is limited and controlled by a cord, which takes the place of the crucial ligaments of the natural knee-joint; so, there is no unpleasant jar caused by the contact of the solid parts, and the annovance and expense of sending the leg to the maker every now and then to have the joints bushed to keep them from wearing loose and rattling is en-tirely avoided. In form, as you see, the limb is made to correspond exactly with the natural one. It is then covered with a delicate skin, which is enameled with the most delicate tinted flesh-colored enamel, shaded to suit each particular case.'

"Formerly," the doctor continued, the manufacture of artificial legs was almost entirely left to common mechanics, and strange to say, to those who had suffered amputation, and had little or no knowledge of anatomy. They imitated some of the motions of the natural leg quite well, but others not at all. Indeed, it could hardly be expected that any one but an anatomist should be able to model a leg so close to nature as to imitate all the varied

motions of the natural leg. "There is the so-called 'army and navy leg,' constructed by the earnest request of surgeons, who wanted for their patients a strong, durable leg, and yet not costing a sum too large for a person of limited means to pay. It has no lateral or side motion, but has India rubber springs that cannot be broken, and which give an easy, graceful motion, like that of the natural limb. English willow. leather, silk and steel are the principal materials. The leg is ventilated completely, and the top rim is bound with brass, which prevents splitting of the socket. The leg is easily taken apart and put together, and will stand the test of years.

"The mechanism of an artificial arm," said the doctor, "is, of course, more complicated, but still the principle to imitate nature is retained in this case also. Inside the thumb a strong spring is inserted to enable it to press upon any object put between it and the two first fingers of the hand; this gives the natural requirements for holding a pen, knife, fork, book, etc. The curved and graceful constructions of the fingers give the hand an easy, natural appearance, with shape and strength to carry a pail of water, to use the lines in driving, or to assist the other hand in lifting and working where two hands are needed. The elbow joint is so constructed that it can be flexed or extended at will, in fact, without any assistance from the other hand, retaining any desired position."

A Curious Variation.

["Manhattan" in Chicago Journal.] This general rule of squalor through sacrifice to drink has one curious variation. You have doubtless read of the cheapness and discomfort in which Italians live in New York. They do not endure that kind of existence because they are saving it. They have no idea of staying longer in this country than will suffice to gather a few hundred dollars, with which to return to Italy, where the sum will relatively be a fortune. The grimiest ragpicker, the humblest organ-grinder, themselves in the Sixth ward. The houses are bad, and the occupants have any one comes in, be busy writing out the aspect of abject and hopeless poving places in that quarter, and not one pawnbroker. That tells the story. Another thing, the Italian stale-beer dens, in which the dregs from beer kegs are sold at 2 cents a glass, with the privilege of sitting all night on a hard bench by a fire, are actual places. and no description has exaggerated their awfulness of degredation; but Italians are the keepers of them, and not the customers.

Animal Life.

Scientific Journal. The largest living animal is the rorqual whale, 102 feet in length; the smallest, the amoeboid forms. Whales and elephants live to the greatest age, 130 years; May flies the shortest, only a few hours. The most intelligent of the lower animals, ahead even of the Australian bushmen and others, are the

Another Solution.

A Louisville clergyman said in his sermon that if women and men would only dance in separate rooms he would not object to dancing. It would be just as graceful, he claimed, and just as healthful exercise, and they could keep step to the music just the same.

Tramps' Valises.

[New Orleans Times-Democrat.] \*Do you see that old pile of valises there in the corner," said the agent of the Pacific Express company. The re-porter nodded assent. "Well, that is what expressmen term 'old hoss,' or in other words freight on hand. All of these valises belong to tramps who have shipped them from various parts of the country, and I will venture to say that some of them will be called for."

"How do you know that the valises belong to tramps?"

"Because after many years' service in the express business, we locate things by instinct. The majority of the valises will never be called for and will be sold at auction, for the reason that the chances are their aspiring and migratory owners have long since been killed while trying to steal a ride on the truck of a freight train." "How long is such freight kept in

the office before it is sold?" "We allow it to remain for a year, and then sell it at auction to the highest bidder. It is a curious sight to see what the valises contain, and how easily bidders are fooled by the outside appearance of the valise. Now, you see that little rusty consumptive fellow off to himself; I will be willing to bet that the articles it contains are of more value than those to be found inside of that puffy fat one with the broken handle Ten chances to one the latter is stuffed with an old shirt and a lot of worthless rags or waste stuff used in cleaning and oiling a locomotive.

If that valise should happen to be destroyed in a fire or stolen or lost and the tramp heard of it, he would send in a claim to the company for \$300, and swear that it contained diamond rings and other valuables. Very often I have had tramps come into the office, and show a receipt for an old valise that had been on hand for at least eight or ten months. He would open it and take out a comparatively clean shirt and put a soiled one in its place. and then ask me what it would cost to send the valise to Little Rock I would state the express charge, and then he would say, 'Will it cost much more to send it to El Paso?' 'Yes, a little more.' 'If I send it to Santa Fe, how long will they keep it before it is sold?' 'One year.' 'Well, if that's the case, just send it to Santa Fe; I'll be there in that time. Here's your money, sir.' And without another word he will turn and walk out, and you will never see his gentle face again. If any of your friends wish a fashionable valise at a low figure, send them around when we have our auction sale.'

> One of California's Nabobs. [Stockton Mail.]

A man with a leg that hung as loose from his hip as if it had been a piece of hay rope buttoned a ragged old overcoat over his humped shoulders and pigeon breast. Then he looked up and down Main street with earnest vacuity, and hopped on his good leg to his wagon and drew himself painfully up to his seat. The top of the wagon was made chiefly of gunny sacks, and canted to one side as if it had about made its mind to give up further effort to be a wagon top. Three spokes were gone from the hind wheels. hind spring was broken and was tied to the axle with half-unraveled ropes. Attached to this ruin of a vehicle a mul was hitched. The wagon by comparison with this beast was a gaudy thing The mule was tied to the broken and spliced shafts with a maze of knots and twists and tangles. The mule stood with his nose within six inches of the ground and gave a hollow cough at intervals. From a strap close to his ear a long tassel depended. It had once been red, but was now a dirty pink. "Get up," said the man with the boneless leg. tugging at the rope and leather lines. The mule groaned deeply, and painfully started up at a walk so slow that it would have angered the chief mourners at a funeral. As he walked it was seen that one of his hind legs had been broken at the knee joint, and healed so that it bent inward and rubbed against the other at every step. "Who is he?" "Oh, its old Gripp that lives out on the sands," answered a farmer. "He must have a wretched life of it." "There you're off, young fellow. Gripp is one of the oldest and best citizens—one of the pioneers. I reckon he's worth half a

How to Get a Start in Law Practice.

[Kentucky State Journal.] "Well, son; did you get any cases to day?" asked a father of a son, who had been admitted to the bar about six months ago.

"No, father; none yet. I am very much discouraged."

"Perhaps you don't take the proper method to get cases. You should never appear on the streets without carrying in your hand a sheet of cap paper folded the meanest chesnut-roaster, is a capi- up so as to look like a legal document; talist. The Italians are a colony by rush about as if you were loaded dow with business. When in your office ap deed or something; and when in court erty. But there are three Italian bank- never fail to cock your feet up on the table, reach up your hair and look wiser than the judge, if you can. That's the way these fellows who succeed in law so well all do."

> Longfellow's "Excelsior." [Exchange.]

The library of Harvard college contains the first two drafts of Longiellow's "Excelsior." The first is written on the back of a note addressed to Longfellow by Charles Sumner, and is indorsed "September 28, 1841, 3:30 o'clock, morning. Now in bed." The second shows variations and erasures. For instance, the line "A youth who bore mid snow and ice" was written four times before decided upon-"A youth who bore a pearl of price," and "A youth who bore above all price. The inception of the line "A tear stood in his bright blue eye" was "A test stood in his pale blue eye."

W. C. Prime: After all, the might forces which move humanity are the forces which come from the affections rather than from the cool intellect.

No less than 500 schemes for improving the condition of the houses of the poor in Paris have been presented to he municipal council.