MATTER OF BUSINESS

ang Invitations That Were All Good for Something.

EPORI

100ter

sers' A

haon baon olwa: j

egos lo

Califie

apples 7c, its penches 5s5c, no

n creas

airy 1

ucks #

ern Ore

Easter Bige.

Dur hru

e, 3jan ic, draw ve, bju

TIONE

least, r

svery n

Temple

re nor

tates

s for t

ildren

ght ter

wig 1

g form

n states

ifferen

bat is

v hards

rian.

Roeide

alooda)

and

assist

the m

s regard uty. Li what

Io war

selfish

ed m

en, up

ans ti

repli

oma

for i

on w

d en

coms

id wh

promp

manh

gula

we m

geri

Inclin

halfs

II Uni

Idvis

sorst

ivida

f sei

work

han s

ley an

a sud

10 gi

h."

Thefa

e

issVirgie do Shrewd (who is discovscated at her davenport addresssumerous square envelopes coning invitations to her wedding)must be careful to whom we send itations, mamma, dear. But of re we will invite the Baxters.

in de Shrewd-Certainiy, my dear. are good for at least a case of a silver cutlery, if not something in ends. Mrs. Baxter was always l of you.

Tes, I know. And what about the levilles?"

c per l I really don't know. They didn't any thing but a pie-knife when retta Brace was married, and I've idea it was one of the half-dozen ir daughter Belie had when she was We'll not count them in just riel

of course we'll have the Brintons. a'te as good as promised me someing splendid in Dresden china. Then, res the Peytons; I detest the whole he of them. But they always give d siver, so they must be invited.

Certainly; and the Macklines." Oh, they'll bring something splenin brie-a-brie. They're in the yes, you know. I wonder if the Gracy's would bring any thing ath having?"

"I really don't know. They might. or gave superb cut-glass at the sett-Grace wedding last month, i I raved over it, thinking they ight take the hint if we sent them rds to your wedding. I believe I'd

"They'll hardly have the face not being something decent when ere's siz of them. I don't know hat to do about the Ridley's. They maily gave Marian Leyster plated are and-"They'd be very likely to do the

ne with you. I wouldn't run the Invite the Layton's instead. hey'll be sure to bring something

orth having. "I do wonder if there's any hope getting diamonds from the Revs And what do you suppose the ightons will bring?"

"Well, I hope they'll have the ency to bring something better an the etching they gave Marian exster.

"I should hope so. Well, I've adressed one hundred and fifty invitaons now, and I believe they're all eod for something, unless it is the regyilles and the Smyths, and we adop them if we finally conclude s're not likely to send any thing." Time.

THIEVES AND BUNCO-MEN.

Detective Says They Are Not So Clever as They Once Were.

"Do you know New York thieves re not any thing like so clover as hey used to be?"' The speaker was one of Inspector

grue's veterans, and there was actuly a touch of sadness in his voice as spoke, as though the decline of lever rascality was really a bad thing or the public generally. The rehis change which seemed to affect

"Well, that's more than I can tell," as the reply. "It may be Secause a many of the leading thieves are in or have been scared out of New York by the police, and that their aces have been taken by new hands. It is not because there are no thieves, for there are just as many as ever. Assoon as one is jailed or frightened off another bobs up and takes his place. But, be it as it may, the whole gang are a precious lot of bunglers. "There isn't the talent around now to get up another Manhattan Bank affair. Even the hunco and "hadger" game men are losing their grip. Take the attempt to rob Phil Daly, the gambler. That affair was a botch. So was the attempted diamond robbery. As for the attempt to "bunco" W. D. Morrissey, the Western miner and horseman, it was clumsy enough to cause some of the old-time "bunko" men to weep. And so the thing goes. It may be that the "crooks" are down on their luck, for "Hungry Joe," who used to be the cleverest of the bunco men, has made more bad breaks lately than a greenhorn, and is locked up in Baltimore as a result. been done of late," the detective went on to say, "has been done by men who were not in the regular order of thieves, and who struck out on a new lite for themselves. These were such men as Foster and Bedell, the lawyers. But the old line of thieves, as I have said, seem to be losing their grip, and if they keep on there won't be any credit in getting the best of them, or in hunting them."

PERSONAL AND LITERARY.

-The novel "Manch," written by Mrs. Mary E. Bryan, was Alexander Stephens' favorite work of fiction.

-Wait Whitman was a compositor So was David R. Locke, Joaquin Miller, Bret Harte, Mark Twain, William D. Howells and Joel Chandler Harris. -Mr. Rider Haggard's friends complain that while he received only \$250 for the original edition of "King Solomon's Mines," the publishers have made \$60,000 out of the book. -Robert Browning's first poem was

written at the early age of four. One day, just as his mother was about to give him a dose of medicine, the youth-ful poet struck an attitude and recited: "All people, if you w sh to see

A boy take physic, look at me."

-George Kennan, the journalist and author, lives in a quaint and modest little house in Washington, D. C. He is forty-three years old, and has a long, thin face; his mouth is concealed by a heavy mustache; his eyes are large and dark, and his figure is spare. Mr. Kennan keeps himself in capdition by a daily spin of ten miles on his bicycle.

-M. Victorien Sardou, the eminent French novelist and dramatist, from a lotter he has just written to the Gaulois is evidently a believer in 121 such phenomena as come under the name of magnetism, hypnotism, second sight and the rest-phenomena which, he says, he has watched with curiosity for over forty years, but which were in his youth ridiculed by men of science.

-The late William W. Fulton, of the editorial staff of the Baltimore American, had a great many interesting experiences during his long journalistic career. He heard a debate in the old Senate chamber between Clay, Webster and Calhoun, traveled with President Taylor, made a trip to New York in company with President Fillmore and Daniel Webster, knew Edgar Allan Poe, heard Jenny Lind sing, saw Patti in her teens and witnessed her rendition of Martha in honor of the Prince of Wales, then in Philadelphia, and dined with President Grant.

-Mr. Rider Haggard is said to be by no means a toiler in a garret. The sixth son of 'Squire William Haggard, of Bradenham-a place which has been in the family for four generations-he married a Norfolk heiress and so became possessed, in right of his wife, of the Manor of Ditchingham, on the edge of the Bath hills. Here he writes in a pleasant corner room of the charming old house, which is overjasmin; and here, at the door, he may be seen in jacket and knickerbockers of brown tweed, soft felt hat, thick knitted stockings and serviceable boots; and between his lips a blackened briarwood pipe. His home is its source.

full of beautiful and eurious things.

HUMOROUS.

-King Charles evidently was making a Knight of it when he dubbed that famous piece of beef Sir Loin .-Puck.

--Never mind the young man who says he moves in the best society. He may be obliged to move as soon as he gets in.-N. O. Picayune.

-A Western college refused to establish a department of wood-carving for fear it would acquire a reputation for turning out "block " heads.

PITH AND POINT.

-An honest man is able to speak for A Description of Chicago's Unrivaled himself, when a knave is not.

-Those who are fellow-creatures with men should not be fellow-judges with God. -The man who pays for beer can alays secure laughers for his jokes .-

Milwaukee Journal. -Others proclaim the infirmities of a great man with satisfaction and horses, released from their stalls, complacence, if they discover none of the like in themselves. - Addison.

-A man with a new idea can not be too careful of it. It may get away from him and become original with some one else -N. O. Picayunc.

-The national growl shows de national cha'acter. We doan hear nuffin bout de wimmin's high hats obstructin' de view o' de pulpit. - Uncte Pete,

-Sacrifice being the essential basis of virtue the most meritorious virtues are those which are acquired with the greatest effort.-De Maisire.

-When a man steals a silver dollar from you, there isn't one bit of consointion in recalling the fact that it is really worth only about eighty cents. -Puck

-Employment which Galen calls "nature's physician," is so essential to human happiness that indolence is just- prised to find how few citizens keep considered the mother of misery .--labert Bartan.

-Curiosity may lead one away from als duty; but no man is likely to do his is to be found. Fully a third of the whole duty, or to know it, if he lacks u full measure of curlosity .--- S. S. Times.

-Down in New York a man can whatever, yet there are only 320 prilrop a nicket in a slot and have his vate boxes in the city. Every citizen handkerchief perfumed. The pro- may have a key that will unlock any prietor of the little device must make normous profits, giving only one get them. Few think of fires till they scent for five cents .--- Waterbury Republican;

-Some unidentiefid philosopher remarks that "It is the newly rich that make displays. It is the paper that as just sprung into notice that hurrahs about its circulation. It is the woman who, for the first time owns a ace shawl, who tells you what it cost."

-The longer we live the more we are convinced of the truth of the cynical remark of the unsuccessful painter, that reputation is rather the outgrowth of luck than of merit. What Hawthorne called the conspiring circumstance rarely visits our homes, and when it does we are generally absent. -The root of the commonwealth is

in the homes of the people. The social and civil life springs from the domestic run with Banksia roses, clematis and life of manhood. The official life of a nation is ordinarily the veflex of the moral sense of the people. The morality of a public administration is to be guarded by the moral standard of the family. The river does not rise above

> -Whenever and wherever the conditions of successful marriage are not complete then marriage is a failure. Marriage is a failure when it is entered into merely as a civil contract. There are men who hunt for wives as they would for cows, and there are women who hunt for husbands as they would for carriage horses, and when found it is merely a civil contract. It is a failure when it is merely a matter of convenience, or for money, or for social position.-Rev. B. B. Tyler.

> > A QUEER COLLECTION.

IN CASE OF FIRE.

Somebody smells smoke or sees a strange light at night and rushing to the nearest alarm-box pulls the hook. In ten or twelve seconds the number of the box pulled is transmitted to every engine-house in the city. Five or six hundred men are instantly out of bed and dressed, and about two hundred spring into position. In twenty-five seconds, on the average, four engine companies, one chemical company and a couple of marshals a: > tearing along

the street, and in a minute or two are on the spot where the alarm originated. "How is it done?" repeated Prof.

John P. Barrett. "By means of an alarm system that hasn't its superior in the world. Counting ordinary firealarm boxes, public boxes and private boxes, there are in Chicago upward of 1,500 points from which alarms may be given, and every time a box is pulled the electric current carries the necessary information over 100 miles of underground wire and 500 miles of aerial wire. The current is never off the wires and the hooks of the boxes

are always there to be pulled as occasion requires. Yet you would be surposted about the fire department. They don't know where the nearest box is or where, in case that falls, the next residences in Chicago could have private alarm boxes at an initial expense of about \$34, and no subscouent lees

box in the city and the multitude don't occur and then still fewer know just what to do. There are three keys, sometimes four, to every alarm-box,

and eitizens should keep posted as to where those in their neighborhood are

pulls the box awakens the firemen, coses the horses, and throws open the doors, and so forth. This is true of small cities but not of a place like America. Chicago where there is a network of telegraph and telephone wires. If a couple of wires get crossed there is a older portions of what used to be called possibility of false alarms. Under the direct system our men would be turned out one hundred times a night. Hence, here, all alarms come directly to the part of the State to Kansas, minister central office, and are thence sent to the various engine houses. In general neighborhood. - Chicago Standard. terms the system is simple. Pulling the alarm-box winds a clock-work inside, to which is attached a wheel, jogged so as to give the number of the box. The breaking and completing of the circuit makes the register print only that part of the home will be octhe number of the box in the office here. By sliding a key, with scarcely a second's delay, we transmit the number to every engine house in the city. where registers reprint the number, gongs awaken the men. and mechanical

appliances-every thing worked by the current-set free the horses. To slide down the pole and hook a few snaps is the work of but a moment, and away go the companies.

"Every day the wires are tested to make sure that the resistance offered doesn't interfere with the passage of the current and to guard against are safer than the common circuit in which each end of the wire is grounded. We can't afford to risk having a number of boxes useless. As additional security, especially down-town, the wires are interlaced so that if one box fails to bring the department the lines the security of the business part of the city is doubled. Every firealarm box has also a fuil Morse telegraphic outfit. If one of our lines break we have but to ground the ends at the engine houses between which the break occurs and we have temporarily the circuit commonly used for commercial purposes. Every precaution is taken to guard against atmospheric influences and every form of disturbance and accident.

2 SCHOOL AND CHURCH.

-The Chambersburg, Pa., Academy declines to receive students who use tobacco.

-Japan has 29,233 elementary schools, with 3,233,226 pupils and 97,-316 teachers. Attendance is compulsory.

-The women of the Northern Presbyterian church contributed last year for foreign missions, \$295,501.03 a gain over the previous year of \$43,-851.38; to home missions, \$226,067.24 -a gain of \$34,106,94.

-The Catholic missions in Bengal are especially prosperous. When they were established in their present form in 1859, there were then 8,000 Catho-Hes among the 800,000 inhabitants of Calcutta. Now there are 50,000.

-An Arcade pastor created a sensation the other day during a sermon. by giving out a hymn to be sung by the choir to a lively tune, with the remark: "Perhaps it may serve to wake the congregation up," and it did,

-The pupils of the Norwich public schools were asked to bring to school on the Wednesday before Thanksgiving each an apple or a potato. Ten barrels were thus filled and then distributed among the needy of the place.

-Armstrong Hall, at the Tuskegee, Ala., Normal School has recently been completed. It was built by the Tuskegee students, who are negroes, they sawing the lumber, making the brick, and doing all the work of creetion and finish except putting on the tin roof.

-The Catholic parochial schools of the United States number 3,000 with an enrollment of 511,000 papils. Since 1885 the per cent. of growth in this enrollment has been four, while the per cent. of growth in the enrollment of the public schools has been eight --The Advance.

-The Methodists of Lumpkin, Ga., have a new church bell, the old one being cracked and worn out. It's time "It is often said that the man who the old bell had a rest, for it was cast in 1600, and has in its time summoned to worship men of varying creeds in the Netherlands, Portugal, Spain and

> -Few persons have any idea of the changes which are going on in the "the West." We have heard of one church in Illinois which was almost entirely transplanted from the central and people going along to the new

> -"The Mary J. Drexel Home and Philadelphia Mother-House of Deaconesses," which has been in course of construction during the past two years, was lately dedicated. For the present cupied which is to be devoted to the training of the deaconcesses, and is intended to form their permanent home or "mother-house."

THE POOR OLD BABY.

How a Little Toddler Feels When Mis Nose Is Out of Joint.

What a curious thing it is to think that that wonderful new baby will turn into a commonplace old baby in a year or two-that with the advent of number two his reign is over.

A little girl, although she is only two years old, takes an interest in that breaks. All our circuits are metallic new baby, feels that she must help this move will result in placing great--that is, have a return wire. They | take care of it, goes about maternally airing its garments and holding the pin-cushion for nurse, delights in its baths, and boasts about her baby brother before she can talk plain. But the boy-that is another matter. He scowls when that wrinkled piece of humanity is presented to him, and he renext one will. By this interlacing of fuses to kiss it. He wants none of it. Why should it have his place on mamma's shouldor? Why should he be told to go away? Ho thinks as ill of it as his limited knowledge of mundane affairs will permit him to think of any thing. He has been known to request that it might be "frowed away," and to call it "nassy sing," and indeed his trials are very great. Life has altered signally for him. He feels it to his heart's core. if he is made of sensitive stuff. It is all very well for Bridget to take him into the kitchen and tell him to "be a nice lad an' she'll make him a cake." He wants his mother. He was never turned out of mother's room before. His heart is full. Well for him at this time if he has a grandmother ready to make him her idol, a little jealous for him as the first born. Then, indeed, his ways shortly become the ways of pleasantness, and life assumes a holiday, cake, candy, gingerbread and toy aspect. But in any event that old baby has a very unhappy day or two before it, a season when knowledge of the bitterness of life comes to him prematurely, and he understands the feelings of a deposed Emperor. - Woman's World. Remarkable Longevity.

ELECTIONS IN JAPAN.

A Politician of That Country Tells How They Are Conducted

An enthusiastic observer of the recent political campaign work in this city was Hon. Y. Honda, a resident of Hirosaki, a city of 35,000 inhabitants in Northern Japan.

Mr. Honda is now on his way around the world. He is just out of a political office, having served two terms, or four years, as a member of the Ken. Aomori, or Assembly, and was elected by the people of his gun, or county.

In conversation with the writer Mr. Honda said: "I was here a week before election, and greatly enjoyed attending the meetings held by the various political parties and beholding the great street parades; also the decorum that pervades the precincts of your polling-places, and likewise the subsequent interest manifested during the count and the reception of the election news. With us in Japan there is not so much domonstration, but withal, a very great interest is taken in our prefecture or ken elections for members of the gun, or county assemblies. Our country now has a population of over 38,000,000, We have a count made every year, and there are forty-three provinces, called prefectures, or kens, in Japan. Each con has a kwal, or an assembly, like your State Legislature, composed of members elected by the people residing in the gans or counties into which the kens are divided.

"These several guns are entitled to from eight to forty assembly guns, or representatives, the number depending on the population, no gun having less than 30,000 people. The kwal, or assembly, holds an annual session, limited to thirty days, and the business discussed relates only to the assembly districts. This, you see, smacks very much of a republican form of government very like your own. This system has been ours now for about ten years. The earlier mode was for the General Government to appoint a Governor and Secretary to rule over each ken. There are three prominent political parties in Japan-the Liberal, Progressive and the Conservative. I belong to the Progressive, which has been in the ascendancy for some time. The Liberal, which is not far behind, is considered too radical. In our country voters are obliged to have a property qualification amounting to a land tax of \$10.

"In my gun there are 70,000 people, but not more than 10,000 are voters. This does not mean that the other 60,-000 are poor men by any means, for many of them are rich merchants and tradespeople; but they can't vote because they happen not to be land-owners, and, therefore, do not pay the \$10 land tax. Probably one-half of the 60,000 are too poor to be voters. At our elections the voting and counting are done in the largest hall in each gun and in the presence of every body interested.

"About eight years ago the Mikado promised the people that in the year 1890 he would accede to a largely expressed wish on the part of the peo-ple and call for the election of a National Assembly, which, I presume, will hereafter meet once a year. Preparations for this National Assembly and the building therefor are now being made. The Radicals think that er power in the hands of the people, but I very much doubt it. Last summer the Mikado appointed a privy council to prepare a national constitution for the coming assembly, and this act, I must confess, occasioned considerable talk among the people. many of whom think that this constitution ought not to be prepared by the Mikado himself, but that he ought to have called together a reprosentative general assembly for so important a work .- San Francisco Ezaminer.

And with this the veteran, who has made some very clever captures in his day, turned away with a sigh .- N. Y. Mail and Express.

Something Had Happened.

"Do you expect a raise of salary the first of the year?" he inquired, as they rode together on the rear platform of the cur.

"Not now."

"Has any thing happened lately to upset your expectations? '

"There has. I had my salary cut down four dollars a week, and was told that I didn't earn half what I was getting after that "- Detroit Free Press.

-Tinware is best washed in soda and water. It can be scoured with care, yet if cept clean from day to day seldom need come to scouring, which process wears it out quickly.

-Artificial eggs are manufactured in a Pennsylvania town. The inventor probably wanted to help the hens bear their yolk. -Rochester Express.

-In going down stairs it is etiquette to follow the lady, but in the case of the young lady's father it is sometimes better to keep pretty well in advance. -Texas Siftings.

-George-"You look glum. Is your lady-love fickle?" Augustus-N-o; but her father is unkind. I called last night and he showed me-'Eh? He showed you the door?" "No; her millinery bills."-Philadelphia Record.

-Cowboy-"Stranger, thar's some good men in this gang, you betcher life. Ye see that quiet, inoffensive cuss a' settin' thar? You wouldn't think it, but he's killed his dozen or more." Tenderfoot-"What! that little man?" Cowboy-"You bet, pard. He's a doctor."-America.

-Brown-" Oh, if I only had a million dollars, what lots of good I would "The only clever stealing that has do with it!" Smith-"What would you do, for instance?" Brown-"Oh. there are ways enough-I don't know exactly what I would do." Smith-"Well, I know." Brown-" What?" Smith-"You'd go to work with all your might to make another million." Springfield Union.

-First bootblack-"Bill, I'm in luck. Git onto this snipe." Second bootblack (contemptuously)-' 1 don't see nothun great about that snipe. Looks jest like any other snipe." (Impressively)-"Bill, that snipe's worth twenty-five cents." (Incredulously)-"Ya-a-as, it is!" "Well, that's what it is. Don't you see it's only about three-quarters smoked? The man that t'rowed that snipe away. Bill, was the railroad editor of the Laboringmen's finished the globe." Vindicator."-Chicago Tribune.

-"Ah." said Miss Erudite to Miss Shrewd at a dinner party the other night, "what a sad, sad face that gentleman has over there in the corner. I have been watching him all the evening, and have not seen him smile once. His heart is heavy with some mighty grief, I am sure of it, and I have been wondering what it could be and letting my heart go out to him in sympathy. Do tell me if you know his history." "Yes," replied Miss Shrewd, briefly, "he is editor of a humorous paper."-Drake's Magazina

Rottled Waters from Many Rivers the Hobby of Two Traveling Englishmen. It is surprising how many peculiar things a man will do when he has more

time and money at his disposal than he knows what to do with. Not long since two young Englishmen of fortune were traveling in this country. They visited many sections,

and one day their conversation attracted the attention of a fellow traveler. A conversation in which all three joined followed.

"What is your destination?" was asked of the Englishmen.

"We scarcely know yet. But we are at present on route for the Mississippi river," replied one of them. "Merely for the sake of getting a

ook at that mighty stream?" "Well, no, not entirely. The truth , want some of the water from the Mississippi river."

"Want some of the water! What forp

"To keep." And amused at the expression on his questioner's face he continued: "You see, my friend and Chicago News. self have a larger income than we can spend. We longed for something new, and together we decided to travel. We thought it would be more pleasant for both if we had some object in view, and we wanted to do something different from any body else, so we concluded to make a collection of waters from all the principal rivers of the earth. We have visited Europe, Asia, Australia, South America and now intend to do North America. What are these collections for? Merely to gratify a whim of the collector, and we are doing that very thing. Already we have sent home many small vials, each labeled, so there can be no mistake, and when we do North America we will have

"How long do you intend to keep the collection?"

"Always, of course. Do you think we would carelessly destroy what has taken so long to collect?"

"Well, I scarcely think so, but do you intend to submit the waters to some chemistor other for analysis?"

"We hadn't thought of it. As I told you, we do this merely to pass the time, spend our money, see the world while we are young, and gratify a whim; and you may believe that so far ligious clubs whose main object is the we have had any amount of pleasure out of it "- Chicago Tribune.

"The facility offered for giving alarms is rarely abused. It's a daugerous thing to maliciously send in a false alarm, for every keyless box has a bell on the inside that is pretty sure to call a crowd before the mischief-maker has a chance to escape."-

Naturally Reduced Iron.

A deposit of naturally reduced iron is, indeed, a novelty; but it appears that, on the north Saskatchewan river. an almost horizontal bed of lignite may be seen cropping out at intervals in the river bank for several miles, overlaid by dark gray clay shales, and gray and yellow soft argillaceous sandstones containing nodules of clay ironstone, exhibiting about thirty-five per cent. of the metallic iron. The seam of lignite has been completely burned the surface covered with a bed of debris of ashes, clinkers and burnt clay, in places to a thickness of twenty feet, supporting at present a thick growth of grass and underbrush. From this mass of burnt clay and cinders, pieces of metallic iron are readily picked out, weighing in some cases as

much as fifteen or twenty pounds, doubtless derived from the nodules of ironstone which have been reduced to the metallic state by the heat from so large a body of burning lignite -N. Y. Sun.

-The growth and popularity of repromotion of social intercourse is one of the interesting signs of the times.

According to Greig the instances of out over a considerable area, leaving longevity in Great Britain are remarkable. Golour M'Crain, of the Isle of Jura, one of the Hebrides, is said to have kept 180 Christmasses in his own house, and died in the reign of Charles L, being the oldest man, on any thing approaching to authentic record, for upwards of 3,000 years. Thomas Parr, a laboring man of Shropshire, was brought to London by the Earl of Arundel, in 1635, and considered the wonder of his time, being then in his 153d year, and in perfect health; but the journey and change of air and diet killed him November 15, the same year. Henry Jenkins, of Shropshire, died in 1670. and was buried in Bolton church-yard December 6 in that year, aged 167 years .- Christian at Work.

Water Curtains for Theaters.

And now comes another idea for a fire-proof curtain for theaters-this time from Sweden. It is interesting, as being suited for old theaters whose construction will not sustain the weight of iron curtains. The chief of the fire brigade in the city of Malmo, Herr O. Berggren, has constructed a fire-proof curtain for a theater, which he calls a "water curtain." It consists of two sheets of canvas, steeped in a fire-proof compound, joined together at the bottom and sides in such a manner as to leave a fair space between, with water mains running to the top, and when fire breaks out, and the water being turned on, the intervening space becomes filled with water, forming a solid wall of water between the audience and the scene. Lately, experiments were carried out with the curtain in an improvised structure in Malmo, in the presence of the officials of the town, architects and others, when a pile of faggot-wood was heaped up against the curtain and set fire to, but the flames made no impression on it, even when petroleum was poured upon the fire. - Albany (N. Y.) Argus.

-Vandyke Camelshair (artist)-"I charge fifty dollars more for the idealistic portrait than for the realistic portrait. It is such a strain upon the nerves to idealize, and erthe-er-the-I-ah, it is so difficult to catch the innermost expression of the soul, as it were, that I-er-" Mrs. Newrich-"Oh, that's all right, young man. I guess I'll let you idolize me fifteen dollars' worth."-Harper's Bazar.

-Single or semi-double flowers bear seeds freely, while double ones are less fertile. For this reason the best flower seeds must always be expensive.