

ry dear girl, you'll have to let cessful lawsuit about right-of-way-a me off. I'm awfully sorry, but success which added a new mortgage the Governor won't give way. to the family collection. ally fond of you, and I think you "It's all very well," said Mr. Ponder,

1 min hills why didn't I want to marry a mon law. I'm sure we should make a harrister, a doctor, or even a a mess of it. One of my articled clerks dist, instead of an Earl's younger | has set up in business in Bedford Row; said Miss Muriel Mallett, with he's a smart fellow, and will fight hard, an on her pretty face, and a tear and just suit you." wo in her large, limpld eyes-eyes h made all the men think, wronghat she was poetical and sentiment-"But, seriously, can you give me

he Hon. Bob Martindale looked at She was just his ideal-tall, wellt but with a saucy face in which big black eyes seemed out of place, scinating. There was in her counnce the strangeness which, accordto Bacon, is necessary to great ity. She affected a tailor-made and was always well groomed; though her dress was a triffe manin the brusque movements which wed that she was fidgety, glimpses father with Mr. Hicks, his Bedford Row cossamer stocking and fine Valenes revealed themselves, and showthat she had a conscience in costume would have delighted the hero of the," said Mr. Hicks. itier's novel with the famous pre-

dy dear girl, if it were a question risking my life, or anything like I wouldn't hesitate; if it were even a few hours of-of-well, you know, lly die, I'd be there; but-but I can't a cad. They have brought me up a swell without any profession, and a bit of a fool, and I couldn't live your earnings as actress, so there

obstacles were to disappear. did like you, Bob, and do, and ave been your wife. If only we'd it's my son's."

money to run a theatrical comwith!' Yes, if I hadn't been such a juggins o blue the five thou, old Uncle Tom | urged Mr. Hicks. me-I didn't know you then."

Yes, if we'd the five thou." she but where will they get their damages ted a little. "You will marry me from?" ver I have £5,000? O, you'd have work, have to be my manager." e nodded.

t's a promise for two years?"

lonor bright?" les, of course, if---" I run straight? Well, look here,

e been engaged-honorably-and want to break it off." lowered his head.

m young, only 24 even at Somer-House. I'd like to have married aged without its help to use very vigand I should have been a good orous language concerning sons, solicit-However some day I may one advocates and actres t to marry some one else." e man shuddered. broken engagement isn't a certe of good character; you must me one. That's fair." e got up and wheeled to him a round table, on which was a crocskin writing-pad, with silver s. She opened it, took out writing er, and found i .n pen and ink. ow, then, write this-My Dear Miss Mallett: It is my inful duty to tell you that I have de fruitlessly a desperate effort to my father's consent to our mar-. He utterly refuses, saying that so old-fashioned as to object to e an actress as daughter-in-law. refore, I am compelled to break gone to Buxton. my engagement with a woman om I still love and esteem."

"Will you marry me?" she repeated. per lips an inch from his, He replied affirmatively without a

word. There is now one obstacle the 'esa between the husband of the fascinating Muriel Mallett and the earldom of Hexham, for his lordship died suddenly from apoplexy on getting a teltgram from an old club friend concerning his son's marriage with the fascinating actress.-The Sketch.

# ILLITERACY IN THE NATION.

# Percentage Now Greater in New England than in the West.

led all the rest of the country in the

general average of popular intelligence,

but this is no longer true. It is now in

the West, and not in the East, that the

only 3.1 per cent. of its population be-

ing unable to read and write. No State

west of the Mississippi River, with the

exception of the four Southern States,

ranks as low as Massachusetts in the

number of illiterates in its population.

This means, of course-and the fact is

a very significant one-that a large per-

East has removed to the West, thereby

materially modifying its "wild and

woolly" condition, and it means further-

more that the West has been doing a

great deal in the enlargement of its

The public schools of such States as

Minnesota, Iowa, Kansas, Nebraska,

and the Dakotas are equal in every re-

spect to those of any of the Eastern

States, and their academies and univer-

sities are rendering effective service in

the sphere of higher learning. So far

as the South is concerned, allowance

must be made for the presence of the

which constitute nearly one-half of the

States, but even with this serious draw-

educational facilities.

entage of the educated element of the

The report of the Commissioner of Education presents some curious and interesting facts with regard to illiteracy in the United States. This information is derived mainly from official records and deserves careful attention. "but that was chancery, this is com-It appears that the number of persona over 10 years of age who cannot read and write is 6,324,702, or 13.8 per cent. of the total population, according to the latest statistics. In 1880, the rate of

illiterney was 17 per cent., and a de-Bob went off to the Riviers, and lost crease of 3.7 per cent, since that time all the money his father gave him. is gratifying in the sense that implies During his absence the old gentleman gradual improvement, but the situation employed a detective-a fellow with is still lamentable, and no good citizen splendid imagination, but very poor can contemplate it without experipowers of observation-and the skireacing a certain degree of humiliation. mishing was done under the Earl's The government is based upon the supervision. Bob was to have staid idea of popular intelligence as an asaway till after the trial; however, an surance of political safety and prosperurgent letter from a club friend of ity, and vast sums of money are exhis father brought him home in a hurry. ided for educational purposes. There He arrived in the evening, and, going really no excuse for ignorance in a to the Carlton, learned that the case country where free schools abound and was in the list for next day. When instruction is within easy reach of all he reached Belgrave Square and was classes. Nevertheless, over thirteen shown into the library he found his out of every 100 of the people are unzble to read and write. This great army solicitor. There was a row going on of illiteracy is a standing reproach, as at a high pitch. well as a menace, and there is no more "Pray tell your father he must set-

important duty than that of reducing it as rapidly as possible. "Settle be damned." Interrupted the There was a time when New England

old boy. "Settle, 1 say," rejoined the solicitor. "You see, Mr. Martindale, Sir Edward says he won't cross-examine the plainof those affairs of fellows who tiff as to her character. He suggests that the material is absurd, and he does not believe a word of the detective's story-he says he'd sooner return the brief." "And the check?" gasped the Earl.

"Yes, and the check. He says there's no decent defense, and he won't try iss Muriel sighed. Bob was a hand- to support the detective's tissue of lies. fellow and manly, and he would Moreover, he insists that if he did he'd e the title and estates some day if fail, and the damages and disgrace would be awful."

"What does it matter to me?" should vere always straight. I should like the old gentleman. "It's not my case, "That's a bit steep," observed the

"My retainer is from you, my lord,"

"O, I'll pay your confounded costs,

Bob groaned. "They've told me they'll make him bankrupt," replied Mr. Hicks, "and his

discharge will be suspended for two years at least." "What has that to do with me?" said

the Earl grimly. Bob interposed: "Lord Salisbury has many claims on his patronage, and in my bankruptcy he'd find a decent ex-

cuse for leaving me out in the cold." substantial gains in education, and the The Earl had no gout, but he manconditions promise an acceleration of such progress from year to year .-- Minneapolis Times.

CIENCE



# Saw a Meteoric Stone Fall.

Mr. J. F. Black, a farmer, living about nine miles from Ottawa, Kan., saw a small meteorite fall on his land late in the afternoon of April 9 last, and going to the spot where it fell, picked it up. It weighs thirty-one ounces and contains a little iron, but consists in the main of stony material.

## New Zealand's Gems.

Agate-hunters from Germany are now exploring New Zealand with very promising results. Blue and white topaz and splendid specimens of amethyst have been discovered by them, as well as large pieces of quartz so filled with because man was then a self-sufficient slender, rutile crystals as to resemble masses of matted hair.

# Java's Man-Ape.

Prof. Marsh, of Yale, has recently an unced his opinion that the remarkable remains of a skull, teeth and other tossil bones found by Dr. Dubo's in Java belonged to an animal that "was not human, but represented a form intermediate between man and the higher apes." This opinion confirms the belief of the discovery of the bones, who called the animal pithezanthropos, or "ape-nan." The bones were found in ancient volcanic deposits, and belong, Prof. Marsh thinks, to the age known as the Pliocene.

### New Kind of Kites.

Meteorologists are now trying to study the atmosphere high above the ground with the aid of self-recording best showing is made of the education barometers and thermometers, etc., sent of the masses. Nebraska stands at the up in kites. This has resulted in a head of the States in point of literacy, great improvement in the forms of he began circling about the Frenchkites, which are now constructed on | man, his companion following his exscientific principles. At the headquar- ample, the two firing their Winchesters of the Weather Bureau in Washington box-shaped kites, with open ends and sides partly covered with silk, are used. Instead of twine or cord, fine, gan puffing It, plano wire is employed to hold the kite. At the Blue Hill Observatory, near Boston, hox-shaped kites have been sent up to an elevation of almost a mile above sea level.

# A Phosphorescent Party.

Monsieur Henry, of the Paris Academy of Sciences, has invented a phosphorescent starch with which surprising effects can be produced. Used as a face-powder, it makes the countenance glow in a dark room with mysterious radiance. Recently a "5-o'clock tea" was given in Paris after dark, no light being employed except that supplied by phosphorescent starch sprinkled over everything in the room. The carpet, the ceiling, the pictures on the walls, colored race, the illiterate members of the furniture, the teacups, the flowers, the faces, shoulders and dresses of the total number of illiterates in the United ladies all glowed and gleamed, making a spectacle that was at once startling back, the Southern States are making and beautiful.

# Oldest Man in the World.

According to statistics collected in Germany the oldest man known to be living anywhere on the earth is Bruno

#### few moments allowed them wherein to change their clothing" Yet womer SUPPOSE WE SMILE. are "exempted" from labor attended

by hardship! Despite these washerwomen, mineri and linen-thread spinners, we are told "it is woman's privilege generally to be exempted from the care of earning her livelihood and that of her off-

spring." It would seem to be time that this libel upon woman should be scorned by fair minded men. From all antiqui ty the majority of women have beet faithful workers, rendering a ful equivalent in labor for their scant, share of the world's goods. The origin of every industry bears testimony to In our own era, while womer this. were still homekeepers, did they no earn their livelihood? What was the weaving, the sewing, the coolding, the doctoring, the nursing, the child care "the work that was never done," If 1 was not earning a subsistence? Ever in these days, when woman goes forth and receives the reward of her labor worthy of her hire. Her anvestresssweet and saintly soul!-did not dream of recompense. But was it not ber

iguorannes who deemed himself the Somerville Journal. only one fit to acquire property?-Pop ular Science Monthly,

# He Could Shoot.

The Marquis de Mores, who was murdered by his native escort, while Free Press. on an expedition in Northen Africa. was an intrepid and adventurous Frenchman, and many characteristic stories are told of his experiences in the Bad Lands of Western Dakota, where he carried on an extensive cattle business fifteen years ago. One day when the marquis returned to his shanty, acording to one narrator, he found a couple of cowboys conducting themselves in a lawless manner around the place. They gave the Frenchman the laugh on his horsemanship, and one of the pair, nicknamed Broad Back Morris, mounted his pony with the remark that he would show the marquis how to ride. Digging in his spurs ters and cursing the marquis to the best of their ability as they rode. The latter calmly rolled a cigarette and be-"Drop that, you tenderfoot!" roared

one of the invaders, pulling up his mustang with a jerk; "drop that, or I'll clip it out of yer mouth." At the same noment he lifted hts Winchester.

De Mores turned half way in his saddle, took a deep inspiration and blew out a cloud of smoke. As it cleared away the cowboy took deliberate aim and fired. The cigarette was Courier. sent flying in fragments.

In an instant De Mores had drawn his long-barrelled French revolver from his belt and pulled the trigger. The Winchester dropped out of the cowboy's hands. He had been shot through both wrists. The other cowboy was then on De Mores' flank. As soon as he saw him pull his gun he grabbed his rifle, but hadn't time to raise it before the marguls fired a second time, just as his bronco gave a lunge and a buck. The man tumbled off with a bullet in his shoulder. De Mores then rolled another eigarette, lighted it and contin anything where i had it yesterday. ued the conversation.

### What's in a Name?

HUMOROUS PARAGRAPHS FROM THE COMIC PAPERS.

Pleasant Incidents Occurring the World Over-Sayings that Are Cheerful to Old or Young-Funny Feleetions that Everybody Will Eujoy.

Wise Tommy. Tommy-Mamma, I wish you were interested in foreign missions, Mamma-Why?

Tommy-'Cos Billy Barlow's mamma is, and she doesn't notice when Billy does naughty things .- Harper's Bazar.

# Any One of the Sex.

Mrs. Wickwire-These clairvoyants' advertisements are so ridiculous. Here is one that begins: "Mme. X tells every The idea. thing." Wickwire-Tells everything Mr.

as publicly as man, she is no more Any woman can do that?-Indianapolis Journal

Inspiration. Friend-Do you always wait for in due, and shall we refuse to credit it spiration before you write a poem? Author-No. I always need \$10.

> A Queen. "Why does Mrs. Webster always refer to her daughter as a queen?" "She married a cattle king."--Detroit



Small Brother-Mr. Guest, will you and sister be married before summer? Mr. Guest-Why do you ask, Johnny? minds to start a college? Small Brother-Because I heard het married you

At Home. Caller-Is Mr. Swigham at home, madam?

Madam-1 have a suspicion that he is. Caller-A suspleton. Don't you know? Madam-Not dedniroly, but if you will go to the cafe on the corner you can py as that whistling boy out in the find out; that seems to be the only place street? where he is really at home .-- Roston Potts-I'd be a whole lot happier than

Something New.

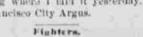
Hoax-I've got a great scheme for warm weather. Jonx-Let's have it.

Hoax-I'm going to keep a small boy near me sharpening state pencils. It always makes my blood run cold .-Philadelphia Record.

Like a Hen. Kicksy-Wife, can you tell me why I am like a hea?

Mrs. Kicksy-No, dear; why is it? Kicksy Because 1 can seldom find

Sau Francisco City Argus.



# The Politician's Visit.

"Twas just a social call," quoth he That phrane is quite enough; There's no use going or to say He called my little bluff. Washington Star.

Great Many of Them. "Dah am a good many folks," said 'ncle Eben, "dat seems ter t'ink dat when dey's made er good resolution, dey's done tuhned out er day's wuhk."---Washington Star.

Gave Him Patisfaction. "Jenkinschimed that I insulted him." "Did you give him satisfaction?" "Guess I did. He pounded me until he was tired."-Omaha World-Herald.

Those Innocent Graduates.



She-I have been shut up in a boardng school for such a long time that I hardly know what to do with my hands. He-Let me hold them for you. di.

Sensible Constance.

Mr. Crimsonbeak-When Constance was younger she used to ride a wheel and I tell you she'd take nobody's dust; Mrs. Crimsonbeak-You don't say ao? "Yes, but now she has reached the marrying age she's willing to take almost anybody's."-Yonkers Statesman,

Perfectly Fiendish.

Husband-Don't you think you are rather unreasonable to expect me for take you to a ball, stay awake until 4 o'clock and then get up at 8 to go to work?

Wife-I may be a little unreasonable, but it's perfectly brutal of you to mention it.-Odds and Ends.

A Good Start.

Freddle-Pa, do you know that a lot of us boys have really made up our

Pa-Ha, ha! That's a fine idea. And say it would be a cold day when she what necessary move have you already made toward the establishment of this college of yours?

Freddie-Well, we've got the college yell already made up .- Yonkers Ga-

Supreme Joy.

Watts-Don't you wish you were hap-

the kid if I could lay my hands on him, -Indianapolis Journal.

Laying Down the Law. New servant girl (at the house telephone)-No, the master is not in, and he and the mistress cannot come to your house next Sunday, because I am going out myself .- Tit-Bits.



he Hon. Bob signed the letter sad-Now, he off. I've to go to rehearsal. you mustn't drive me down. Once plexed every inch of the way.

re, if within two years I have five as capital, you promise you will rry me?"

Yes, darling, on my word of honor!" passionately. A minute later he vildered.

that evening there was rejoicing in big mansion in Belgrave square, ch in honor of the return to reectability of the prodigal Bob. We'll soon find you a wife, my boy,

said, over the port, which he drank honor of the affair and in defiance gout and doctor's orders. "None your rich American trash, but some of decent family and the sort of id, reasonable dowry that a younger

deserves." Next morning at 12 o'clock, when Earl was vainly trying to put on boots without swearing at the pain. Hon, Bob entered the library with document in his hand. "I never a promise to Miss Muriel Mallett that

ught she'd have done it, sir," he

# "Done what?"

"Look; the beastly thing says, "The aintiff claims damages for breach of mise of marriage." "Bring me my slippers!" shouted the arl; "damn the horse! send round the

ougham!" Off he went to Lincoln's Inn Fields. "You'd better settle," said Mr. Pon-

r, the old family lawyer. "Settle!" he shouted, "settle! I'll ow up the baggage, the ---- ! I'll put ery detective in London on the job. m not afraid of court, and when the iry hears what she really is-"

"But the scandal?" "Don't talk about scandal; enter an pearance, and leave the rest to me.

"My dear Governor," Interrupted b, who had accompanied him, Ir to the girl. I didn't think Muriel ould have done it; but she's perfectly raight-I'd stake my life on it."

Nonsense, Bob! You're a fool, and I might have chucked up the game. As a'd better stay abroad till the af- it is, I hold you to your word as a man It's over. I'll attend to it. I'll show of honor. Will you marry me?" " how to fight." The Earl's eyes med. "We'll teach her, won't we, loved her. She took hold of his jeft ander, what litigation means?" Then hand, his right arm wandered round

told a lengthy, stale tale of his suc- her waist

"They will take £5,000 for damages

with a full apology and withdrawal in open court," said Mr. Hicks, "and £500 for costs." "An apology! A withdrawal!" "A withdrawal of all the charges

on the record." Next day, to the infinite disgust of

Sir Edward, in a graceful speech, made an apology of the most ample character, withdrew all imputations, and compensation for the injury to the lady, together with her costs.

The Morning Post, on the morrow,

When the honorable Robert, a day later, received a letter from Muriel, saying she was most anxious to see him, he took a cab to Brompton Crescent, and grew more and more per-

Miss Muriel, looking very neat, natty, handsome, and piquant, with a prodigious glow of life in her eyes, shook With a swift movement she threw sit down on the sofa by her side. For a

down. "Look here, Ella," he said brusquely, "stow the cackle and come to cues. the Earl of Hexham drank too I'm delighted to see you, and don't bear malice; but what on earth put it into your pretty head to send for me?" She laughed loud, long, and heartily -so loud, long, and heartly that at last he laughed with her.

"Well, you are a goose!" she said. "I know it," he answered. "I dread not in the least degree likely to meet Michaelmas."

"I think your brain is developing; you're growing witty. O, you haven't got there yet!"

"Well, but-"Listen to me. The Hon. Robert Talbot Hiesmes Clarence Martindale made

# if within two years she had £5,000 to finance a theatrical company with he'd

marry her." He gazed open-mouthed. She wheeled up the little round table to him, opened the crocodile-skin writing pad with silver edges, and took a bundle of crisp "flimsles" from the

flan "One, two, three, four," she counted out up to fifty; 'fifty' brand new Bank of England notes, each for 100 beautiful, shining sovereigns. You see, I've

got the five thou." He stared, mentally paralyzed. "The damages!" she shouted, brate rical with laughter.

"The damages!" "Yes, and your promise." "Yes, but-"There are no buts about it; you've

romised, and you love me." He nodded. "And I love you. If the Earl hadn't played it so low down in the defense

She looked into his eyes. He really

Will Not Submit to Dictation

The subject of renewing the privileges of the Bank of France will shortly come up for discussion in the chamber, after having been in abeyance since 1892, when the senate approved

a bill for the purpose. The bill has not since been modified the reporters and the crowded court, and the provisions included in It will, it is thought, be adopted without material alteration. One of them, which was to empower the bank to increase announced that £5,000 would be paid as | its note issue from 3,500,000,000 francs to 4,000,000,000, was passed as far back as 1893. The charter expires on Dec

31, 1897, and the proposal is to extend announced that the Earl of Hexam had it for a period of twenty years from that date, in consideration of the bank making certain concessions to state.

Among these concessions is one by which the bank is to forego all future interest on the government debt, 140,-000,000 francs, and not to demand repayment of the capital so long as the charter is in force. The bank is to undertake the service of the national hands with him warmiy and made him debt and transact other business for the treasury, both at the head office and arms around his neck and kissed quarter of an hour she stimulated his branches, free of charge, and make an curiosity by talking about nothing in annual payment to the latter for 2,000,ind himself in the street, sad and particular. At last his patience broke 000 france during the first year of the currency of the new charter and 2,500,-

000 francs per annum subsequently. It is to open several new branches and make advances to agricultural cooperative societies.

It is not improbable that an effort will be made to convert the bank into a state institution, but such a project does not command support either in financial or ministerial circles, and is

with success .- Edinburgh Scotsman.

# A Long Shot.

James Shields was elected to the Senate in 1848, defeating his predecessor. Senator Breese. Shields had distinguished himself in the Mexican War. and at the Battle of Cerro Gordo he was shot through the lungs, the ball passing out at his back. His recovery was one of the marvels of the day. Shields' war record is believed to have secured to him his triumph over Breese. When the news of Shields' election was received, a lawyer named Butterfield was speaking of it to a group of friends, when one of them remark-

"It was that Mexican bullet that did the business." "Yes," retorted Butterfield, "that was a great shot. The ball went clear through Shields with out hurting him, and killed Breese one thousand miles away."

Heard While Waiting. A passenger, while waiting at a railway station for his train, amused himself by watching the queer looks and The linen-thread spinners of New Jerantics of a tailless cat as it played about sey, according to the report of the on the platform. The stationmaster Labor Commissioner, are 'in happening to pop out of his office, the branch of the industry compelled to ntending traveler pointed to the cat stand on a stone floor in water the year and said, "What kind of a cat is that-Manx?" "No," replied the stationmas- a spray of water from a revolving cylter, with a sly smille, "Brighton Ex- inder flying constantly against

press. Lots of people are afraid of a cyclone who are not afraid of the devil.

It is not a sin to steal things at a grocory store where you "trade."

Cotrim, a negro born in Africa, but now told. living in Rio Janeiro. Upo- the same

authority is based the seemingly incredible statement that there are 3,883 persons living in Bulgaria, each of whom has reached, or passed, the age of 100 years, making one centenarian to every 1,000 inhabitants of that country! Germany, with a population of 52,000,000, claims only 78 centenarians, and France, with a poulation of 40,000,000, 213 centenarians, while Ireland, whose population numbers only 4,600,000, has 578 centenarians.

### Destroying Friction.

After calling attention to the fact that man was content with the use of oil to keep machinery in running order until

he began to ride the bicycle, when he demanded some better labor-saver and invented ball-bearings, the Scientific American proceeds to illustrate and describe some recent applications of such bearings. They are employed for wag on and carriage wheels, for the carrierwheels of cable roads, and for the shafts of swift-running machinery. They practically dispense with the use of the oll can and greatly reduce the amount of friction to be overcome, thus adding to the effective power of all machines in which they are used. The singular fact is noted that Prof. Boys, of London, showed experimentally that ball-hearings, when properly constructed, are practically proof aginst wear. He demonstrated this fact by weighing the balls of a bleycle-bearing when they were new, and again after they had been subjected to long service. They showed no loss of weight.

American Soapstone. In the Ragged Mountains, in Albe marle County, Virginia, the scene of one of Poe's weird tales, exists a great deposit of soapstone which is said to be the finest in the world. It was discovered only about twelve years ago, but now a small colony exists at the spot and three quarries have been open ed. The stone, which is very hard and fine-grained, is cut out in blocks averaging nine tons in weight, and afterward is sawed into slabs. It is employed, among other things, for tanks in mical laboratories, tubs and sinks in laundries, linings for fireplaces, griddles, which need no greasing when made of soapstone, tables and fittings in hospitals and dissecting-rooms. Acid is said to have no effect upon the stone.

# Does Woman Earn Her Keep?

Thousands of women work in the nines of Belgium, England and Cornwall. In the first-named country they formerly worked from twelve to sixteen hours a day, with no Sunday rest. otie round, most of the time barefoot, with breast; and the coldest night in win-

ter, as well as the warmest in summer, these poor creatures must go to their homes with water dripping from their underclothing along their path, space, even when the space is only one because there could not be space or a | centimetre

The story of their trouble is easily

There was William J. Brown, who had an office on the seventh floor, and Ain't ye never 'card tell of the Egyptian W. Joseph Brown, who had an office on mummies? They fight like the very the sixth floor. Each tried to stick to devil-Fun.

his own method of parting his name but many labor-saving correspondents insisted upon using only the initials the police judge. and that made a good deal of trouble. see a check sticking out of a letter as on this sidewalk. Do you take me for he opened it, only to find that it be a horse?"-Cincinnati Enquirer. longed to the other W. J. Brown, and it

was annoying to the other W. J. Brown to pay express charges on packages be longing to W. J. Brown on the floor above.

William J. tossed a letter into W. Joseph's office one day with the suggestion that it would be a good scheme for him to pay his bills, as he (William J. was tired of receiving them. It was not until W. Joseph's wife

made the mistake of addressing a let ter to him as "W. J." that the real trou ble began. William J. handed the letter to W. Joseph and asked with right cous indignation: "Why don't you sup ply your wife with enough money whet she goes visiting?" He got away before there was a chance for an explosion, but it came the next day when W. Joseph drifted into his office and handed him a letter with the remark: "I wish you'd marry that girl. You've been engaged long enough, and, besides, her letters are getting sickening."

The police finally succeeded in restor ing order.-Chicago Post.

Interviewing Casey.

A reporter of a New York daily once went to the office of the late General hard up too. Here's a nickel fer yer .-Casey to get some information concerning the Lydecker tunnel story. General Casey looked at the young man rather sternly at first, and the reporter expected but scant detail to follow. "Come in, sir!" he exclaimed, in a tone of almost unpleasant command. The two doors of his office were open. The reporter was standing. The gen eral, without a word, went to one door and closed it with the utmost precision; then he went to the other door and closed it with the same precision. The reporter was in doubt. The two were in the room alone. Coming up to the newspaper man, he pointed his index finger straight at his eye, and said: "Sit down there, young man. and I'll tell you the --st story you ever heard." And he did.

# Microphones,

A recent invention consists of an ap-paratus by means of which a microphone suspended over a child's crib automatically rings an electric bell situated at any convenient point on the least noise made by the child. The microphone, as is well known, is a very sensitive form of a telephone transmitter, capable of detecting the faintest sounds.

# A Vacuum

A perfect vacuum is a perfect insulator. It is possible to ezhaust a tube so perfectly that no electric machine can send a spark through the vacuous

Rill-But them Egyptians ain't much good at fightin', are they, Tom? Tom (the pothouse oracle)-Oh, yus!

Insulted.

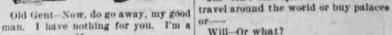
"What street do you live on?" asked "I don't live on the street," response It was annoying to one W. J. Brown tc. ed Perry Patetie, with warmth. "I live

Delicately Put.

Prince-How old is my family? Genealogist-It was in the year 1180 that your excellency's ancestors chose

to give up their incognito,-Fliegende Blactter.

Generous



poor man myself. Jill-Or keep his bicycle in repair .--Dead Reat-Well, I'm sorry to see ye Kansas City World.

St. Paul's. \* Kind Offer.

Highwayman-Your money or your life!

Poet-Money I have none, but if you New York Press. will tell me some of your adventures I will write them down and divide the profits with you, -Fliegende Blaetter. watering place to her husband contains

# Fuccessful Doctor.

Dr. Emdee-Don't be discourage l; your son will be a successful physician before you know it. Graduate's Father-What indications

of this have you observed? Dr. Emdee-He has just the face for hothouse whiskers.-St. Louis Post-Dispatch.

#### The Illustration Editor-Your story is too intelligible

"Huh! He probably struck a good bleycle road and was trying to complete for our readers. Author-I supposed, of course, you a century run before delivering his meswould illustrate it .-- Detroit Tribune. | sage."-- Truth,

DOG-CATCHING BICYCLE ATTACHMENT.





elgawette dwaw. Boy-Why don't you get out and push, mister?-Ally Sloper,

Delights of Tophet.

And the soul of the wicked one was next condemned to fall through space at the rate of a mile a minute for 10,000

"Say," he shouted as he passed the 10,000th ghostly milepost, "this bents any coasting I ever tried!"-Indianapolis Journal.

A Love Story.

om)-Eh, what is this?

story

her walst?

story .- Tit-Bits.

tune of \$1,000,000.

Her father (coming suddenly into the

Her lover-1 was telling Miss Budd a

Her father-With your arm around

Her lover-Er-yes, sir; it was a love

Great Luck.

Will-Bikerly has just inherited a for-

Jill-Isn't that splendid? Now he can

Leathery Humor.

ne'll steal those show?

Harduppe-Why?

Sharpe-Say, aren't you afraid some

Sharpe-The patent has expired .--

A letter from a lady at an inland

the following passage: "In your last

epistle you sent me 200 marks and 1,000

kisses. I should be glad if in future

you would send me more money and

No Improvement.

district messenger boys on wheels.

saw one going like the wind to day."

"Say, it was a great idea to put the

fewer kisses."-Dorfbarbler.

Vice Versa