THE FAULT OF THE AGE. pult of the age is a mad endeavor

to heights that were made to borst of strength, or a thought most te plan to forestall and outwit time.

gors to wait for the thing worth having; sant high noon at the day's dim gawa, our forefathers did in the old times

force our roses, before their season, bloom and blossom for us to wear; the we wonder and ask the reason The perfect bods are so few and rare.

gare the gain, but despise the get-

Se want wealth-not as reward, bur the strength (hat is wasted in useless

resid tell a forest or build a tower.

************** My Brown Merino.

O YOU think it will look fit to be bolding up to the light my old ers merino.

gorgie Terry looked at it rather du-sily, while I anxiously waited her

fin-I don't know, Rose, 1 wish a would take my black alpaca. The gino will be good enough for me at

indeed, I'll do no such thing!" I exand indignantly. "Have all the astre of going away and take your es in the bargain, leaving you to If home and wear my old clothes! I t be quite that selfish, Georgie." Gergie laughed melodiously. She says had such a pleasant, rippling it sounded warm and sunny,

glike her own sweet temper. Now, that's what I call 'straining at pat," said Georgie, with her ripe, lips trying to pout, but quivering a smiles instead. "But here comes mus. She shall settle that point." Post, dear mamma turned her head, to one impetuous daughter, then

the other, sighing gently all the ale. But to my great glee the deciswas in my favor. I wish you could have another new es, dear Rose," said mamma, in her ndest tones; "but I don't see how we

a manage it." all this dispute may seem very trivial the unconcerned, but to us, the inestel parties, it was of great importee. I was going on a journey—going lave my home and travel alone for warst time in my life. We-that is, mma. Georgie and I—lived on grandthe's farm, in New Hampshire,

Mamma had a friend named Mrs. urion, who had been living in Bosthe many years, and she had writmamma begging that one of us pt pay her a long visit. Great was debating as to which should accept winvitation.

Georgie insisted that it was my pregative, as I was Mrs. Wharton's sake. I rather think our new miner had something to do in making orgie so persistently refuse to go; for ed and kind as Georgie was, she had or been quite so active until young It Partridge beamed upon us, with I could say nothing to this prepararight black eyes. However, it on't do to tell her secrets without spe

d permission. Mamma had given me a new gray wa for Sundays and visitings; I had so a white one for evenings, in case I old go to any parties. These, with two morning wrappers, were con-

red a very good outfit. Georgie had generously insisted on taking her new black alpaca, her e best dress, and leave my brown ino-my last winter's garment-for r to wear on Sundays. But Georgie as the soul of generosity, and would ggar herself to do anyone a kind-

After much twisting and turning and scussions as to trimmings my wardbe was considered finished and prestable, and I embarked on my jour-7. The ride was one of long delight, my passionate love of traveling had erto been very little gratified. As I stood in the railroad station at

y journey's end, looking helplessly of me, a tall gentleman, with a indsome brown mustache, approachand bowing with easy and polished ice, said in an inquiring tone:

"Miss Rose, I presume?" bowed in response, inwardly wonering if polite society required gentleen to address ladies at first acquaintthe by their Christian names.

"My aunt, Mrs. Wharton, has been texpectedly called away from home at few hours, and has given me the her and pleasure of escorting you to thouse," he remarked.

My second reply was another bow gain I was wondering who this phew was. The gentleman looked at curiously. Evidently he was begin-

ig to think me dumb, so I found voice

How is Mrs. Wharton?" "Very well, indeed, I thank you, and

ing eagerly for your arrival." After we were seated in the carriage, thich was far handsomer than my untry experience had thought possie, the gentleman proceeded in his efets for my entertainment.

Do you wonder how I knew you, is Rose?" he asked.

Very much," I replied-not, howwithout qualms of conscience, as aid really not given it a thought. I recognized you by your dress," he apparely responded.

I looked down at my bright merino. subject at home of so much disding, and felt an inward terror. Was e man a medium, a clairvoyant? Had in spirit heard my conversation with

"My dress?" I gasped.

Yes, your dress. My aunt informed e that your traveling suit was

Ohr I faintly ejaculated, inwardly anking how very strange in mamma write to Mrs. Wharton concerning dress, and feeling considerably eled about it-so much so that the atleman, judging from my flushed beeks that the subject was unpleasat pursued it no further, to my great

fresently the carriage stopped before

a large and handsome dwelling, and although I know that Mrs. Wharton was in possession of a very comfortable income, I was not prepared for the elegance I encountered.

My poor brown merino looked sadly out of place beside the rich crimson furniture and splendid mirrors, and had not Mrs. Wharton's nephews made strenuous efforts for my entertainment. should have subsided into that most forlorn and dreary feeling-homesick-

"My aunt begged that we should dine at the usual hour," said the gentleman, after I had divested myself of my wraps, "as she was afraid she would not be able to return before 8 or 9 o'clock; the friend she has gone to see is very ill-in fact, dying-and Aunt Lizzie will probably stay until all is over."

"Aunt Lizzie?" I thought; "has she discarded the name of Rose?" I remembered, however, that her initials were R. E. W.

The dinner was charming; my appe tite was good. I never had dyspepsia in my life, and I ate the luxurious food, so daintily prepared, with an enjoyment that must have been quite amus-

ing to my companion. About an hour after we had sat down, while we were leisurely partaking of our dessert and discussing the rights of women, the butler handed a note to my vis-a-vis. After asking me to excuse him he opened and read.

The look of surprise and consternation in his face was simply appalling. "Has anything happened to your aunt?" I timidly inquired, feeling uncomfortable under the scritinizing gaze

of his dark-gray eyes. "No, no-that is, nothing of importance-but I do not think she will be back to-night. But, Miss Rose-your name is Miss Rose, is it not?"

I put down the orange I was peeling and looked the amazement I felt. "My name is Miss Rose Terry," I re-

plied, with as much dignity as I could "Yes-certainly-I beg your pardon-

but, Miss Rose-Miss Terry, I meanyou will make yourself comfortable for the night-until my aunt returns, I should say." His confusion seemed very strange,

after his late self-possession, but attributing it all to the contents of the note-alas, I did not then dream of the information it conveyed :- I endeavored to make the best of it, and told him not to be uneasy, as I had no doubt but that Mrs. Wharton would return early in the morning.

Books and music formed the principal subjects of conversation during the few hours I passed with Mrs. Wharagreeable did he prove that I began to my embarrassment at remaining so long alone with a stranger.

At breakfast next morning we chatted away like old friends, but when the meal was over my companion asked me to walk into the library for a few mo-

I complied with his request, made rather gravely, feeling a sensation pass to happen.

"Please be seated, Miss Terry," he began. "I regret that I am obliged to explain a very strange mistake-and I beg your pardon for keeping you in ignorance through last evening, but, believe me, I did so only because I wished you to have a pleasant and comfortable rest after your long journey.

bing at such a furious rate I dared not trust my voice.

"My aunt," he continued, "expected a lady friend, named Miss Annie Rose, to arrive yesterday, and being called from home unexpectedly, she commissloned me to be her escort from the railroad station to the house. She spoke of Miss Rose's traveling dress being brown, and hence my mistake in accosting you. The note I received last evening apprised me of my error, for in it Aunt Lizzie informed me that Miss Rose, learning of the illness of Mrs. Talmage, had arrived by an earlier train and gone directly to the house of Mrs. Talmage, so that she might see her friend once more while alive. If you will accept my apologies for causing you this inconvenience and delay in your plans I will be truly grateful for your forbearance and will do all in my power to rectify my mistake as speedily

What could I say? He was so sin cerely sorry I could not find fault with With hot cheeks I explained my part in the misunderstanding.

"My friend is Mrs. Rose Wharton. She lives on Charles street. If you

"I will deliver you safely into be hands, Miss Terry," he interrupted, and will immediately order the carringe. But first I must thank you for your goodness in so readily granting

pardon for my inadvertence. When we arrived at Mrs. Rose Wharton's door he turned to me, and, taking

my hand, said: "Miss Terry, you have shown me great mercy. Will you add to your favors one more kindness, and grant me permission to call this evening and renew the acquaintance which, although commenced under such untoward circumstances, has yet afforded me much happiness?"

The look which accompanied these words was so beseeching that my heart yielded and I murmured an almost inaudible "Yes," which favor he acknowledged by a slight pressure of my hand.

Mrs. Wharton and I had a hearty laugh over my adventure, and when he called that evening she was completely charmed with both his manner and appearance.

The acquaintance, commenced strangely, progressed rapidly, and before my visit was half over I had good | delicate fibers. Sometimes they work reason to hug my old brown merino for months to complete a single manwith a grateful heart for being the un- tilla or handkerchief. These native conscious means of bringing me so much happiness.

I afterward had the pleasure of sec-I say it was as far superior to mine as brand new three-dollar-a-yard material could be to a seventy-five-cent

"Never mind," said my lover, as I pointed out the difference, "you shall exasperating task to attempt to train have as many ruffles and flounces as you like hereafter, but this brown dress is simply perfect, for it contains Rose."

In a happy household there should be no room for doubt.

CHARACTER IN ONE'S VOICE.

Unless the voice sounds cordiality, words are powerless; unless the voice not convince; unless the voice speaks by embroidered red sedan chair, decor- of this poem has false meter and is sincerity, the apology is useless. It is need with flowers, and hired for the tossed aside. The next begins in schoolnecessary that we should control the voice to a reflection of that phase of mind and mood which we desire to present. When we would convince people of our efficiency we must not permit a weak-kneed voice to stagger under the words. When our hearts go out in warmth and affection it cannot get far in a brass-lined, ironbound voice. Conciliation is vain when the voice rings

defiance. Imagine yourself at a telephone when The most impassioned appeal to John to come home to dinner and meet Cousin Mary is likely to prove ineffectual. A message to "that brute of a dressmaker-man" who wants his money, may be divided into the receiver with all dignity of tone and choice of word, but the wobbled reproduction at use all your most dulcet tones and most expressive words when you are talking through the possessed wire to the busiis in a creaky fit the business manager does not get the right idea at all.

The truth is that most of us are al ways talking through a telephone. The honest will, the courteous intent, the high heart of courage, speaks clear and sweet and strong, but the muffled. wheezy, creaky, thin, unnatural, colorless result at our lips misrepresents us. and John doesn't, the dressmaker-man insists, and the business manager gives the other fellow the job?

What can we do about it? The difficulty is almost always first a voice habit-a color the voice has taken on from some prevailing tint in our life. This is so with almost everyone. This strain of the natural voice color is not voice individuality; it is a modifying of voice individuality, an obscuring of it. It is a habit-not a characteristic. It must be gotten rd of.

Only just what you want must go into your voice. Think of that a little. When you call to the child who stands on the edge of a fall, shall your panic go into your voice, or just the reassuring note of gentle authority that you know will bring the child to you, instead of starting him over the dreadful edge? When you interview the insubordinate cook, shall your sense that she very well deserved to be thrown out of your back door and her trunk on top of her prevail in your voice, or your earnton's nephew, and so pleasant and est desire to keep her in hand till after the impending dinner? When you face like him very much, and quite forgot just the personality in your world who holds at the minute your fortunes in his gift, shall your sick sense that he does not know and may not believe in your fitness for what you are going to ask, color your voice, or shall your firm be-Hef that you can fill the place characterize it? That is the whole question Shall your voice vibrate to such quality of your mood as you choose, or shall it through me that something was going be at the mercy of just what will do you injustice in the mind of those who hear .- Werner's Magazine.

RECENT INVENTIONS.

Wood figures can be rapidly duplicated by a new carrying machine, having two pedestals on which the figure the latter.

An improved window-curtain bracket has a sleeve secured to the end of the screw, with a square rod mounted in the sleeve to slide in and out and adjust the curtain pole, a bracket being also carried by the shank to support the shade roller.

A New York man has patented a screen door which can be used in the winter, the screens being arranged in panels, which can be removed and glass or wooden panels inserted in cold weather, being locked in place by but tons attached to the door frame.

In Pennsylvania a man has patented an incandescent light of high candle power, a pencil of material conductive only when heated being set in a horizontal position to complete the circuit. the passage of the current through it causing it to glow and give out a white

Shaving lather can be rapidly pro duced by a new machine, which first expels the oxygen from the water, mixing the latter, after heating, with a suitable soap, which is contained in a receptacle in contact with the water, the lather being formed by agitating the machine.

In a new device to enable ordinary bicycles to be used on a railroad three rods connect the front, rear and top of the frame with a shaft carrying a fianged wheel to run on the opposite track, while revolving disks are suspended beside the bicycle wheels to act as flanges for the latter.

Philippine Women.

Aristocratic Philippine women in dulge in no greater bodily exercise, if they can help it, than that required for driving or shopping. But the peasant whatever it may be, laboring at the plow, behind an ungainly carabao or water buffalo in the paddy field, or helping to pole huge lorcha, or cocoanut raft, up or down the river, besides attending to her domestic cares. Hundreds of girls are employed in the great cigar factories, and others in the convents labor to weave the far-famed pina lace of the Philippines, several at a time squatting on the floor around a single frame, picking and manipulating with deft fingers the infinitesimally women are rarely employed by European residents as domestic servants except in the capacity of lady's maid ing Miss Annie Rose's brown suit. Need or children's nurse, and even thise positions are occupied by koys. They are very unreliable, and the utter absence of sense of gratitude, so characmerino which was in its second season? teristic of the entire Philippine race, renders it an almost hopeless and very

hear than the comments of our friends say, "We don't want an article on that looks like the equestrian statues of

CARRIED OFF THE BRIDE.

Chinese Damsel. The way of Oriental brides would scarcely suit their Occidental sisters. attests self-confidence, protestations do In China a bride usually rides in a rich- that egotistical stuff." The first verse

occasion.

hired a chair to carry his bride to his editor reads ten lines. It is simply a homestead in the suburbs. The dis dull description of a stream in a forest tance was great and the hour late. tern bearers arrived at their destina- according to the rules, is pretty good. tion the chair containing the bride was. It is put one side to see if other better ing the door to admit the bride and the but the second shows a coarse strain the instrument whirrs and wheezes. as they had traveled a long way and story follows. The beginning is not were tired, they soon fell asleep. How the bridal chair outside the doorway. examination. In half an hour twenty left there for them to take back to the the other end does not go. You may city. Since they had all received their pay in advance they did not stop to make further inquiries, but hurried home with the chair, put it in a loft, ness manager, but if the possessed wire and, rolling themselves up in their beds, slept the sleep of the just. In the meantime the bridegroom heard the bridal party arrive, but had to await the stroke of the auspicious hour before welcoming the bride. At last the candies were lit, incense sticks were lighted, the new rice and viands for entertaining the bride were served, the parents-in-law put on their best suits and so did the bridegroom and, with much pomp and ceremony, the door was thrown wide open; but as far as the lanterns' light would reach, lo! there was not a trace of the bridal

chair or bride, nor a single soul to be

seen. Great was their consternation,

and it became greater still as they con-

naped the bride and would hold her for

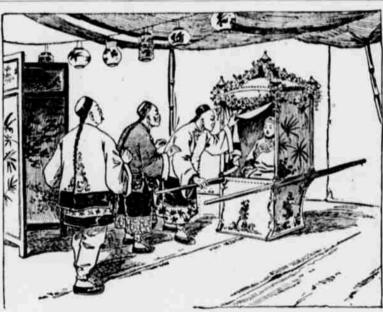
ransom.

In page or two of commonplace introduction, and that is thrown aside it it Is as Perceptible as the Words You Strange Misadventure that Befell a half a minute's inspection, without turning more than the next page. The next is written in the first person, and peppered with "I's.," "We don't want girl style, with "dove" and "love;" it is Not long ago in Canton city a man not read through. Of the next the -not wanted. The next poem begins When the four chair coolles and the lan- in a fresh way, seems to be constructed deposited outside the doorway to await poems will crowd it out. The next is the auspicious hour selected for open- a story. The first page is promising, coolies adjourned to an oplum den; and, and the reading stops there. Another promising, but a glance at the middle long they dozed they knew not, but on and end shows a marked improvement. awakening they returned and found and it is laid aside for a more critical They came to the not unnatural conclu- articles are passed upon, and with sufsion that the bride had already entered | ficient good judgment, for a minute to the household and that the chair was a manuscript is often more than it

Everybody Plays the Guitar.

In Portugal men play upon the guitar as naturally as Yankees whistle. The pensants are universally given to the instrument, chiefly as an accompanment to the voice. In towns and villages the artisans are often expert guitar players and walk in groups to and from their work, enlivening the journey with music and song. The carpenter who comes to your house to execute a small job brings his guitar with nis tools and the blacksmith is a far better performer on the guitar than the

When Portuguese day laborer or workman has finished his long day's toil he does not hie him to a wine shop to squander the few cents he has earned; he does not even lean against cluded that bandlis must have kid. a post and smoke, nor whittle a stick while swapping yarns with his fellows. The district officer was If he did not bring his guitar with him aroused, the case was reported to the he goes straight home and gets it, rests village justice of the peace and search and comforts himself with the music parties were sent out in every direction. while supper is being prepared. After-



DISCOVERY OF THE BRIDE.

and block are mounted, with a tilting plained what they had done. Together of a neighbor. and sliding support for the tracing and they climbed to the loft, opened the tory speech, for my heart was throb- cutting tool, a flexible shaft operating door of the chair and found the demurelooking bride, long imprisoned and half starved, but still appearing to her best known that she was being carried marriage ceremony is performed. Hence all the trouble.

ALL WERE SELF-CONVICTED.

Guns with Singular Unanimity. Georgia has a stringent law forbidding its citizens to carry pistols on pain of forfelting the weapons and paying a fine of \$50 or being imprisoned for thirty days. Shortly after the passage of this enactment Judge Lester was holding court in a little town, when suddenly he suspended the trial of a case by ordering the sheriff to lock the

doors of the courthouse, "Gentlemen," said the Judge when the doors were closed, "I have just seen a pistol on a man in this room and 1 cannot reconcile it to my sense of duty unnoticed. I ought perhaps to go before the grand jury and indict him, but if that man will walk up to this stand and lay his pistol and a fine of \$1 down

here I will let him off this time." The Judge paused, and a lawyer sitting just before him got up, slipped hishand into a hip pocket, drew out a neat ivory-handled six-shooter and laid

it with a dollar down upon the stand, "This is all right," said the Judge, "but you are not the man I saw with

the pistol." Upon this another lawyer arose and bill before the Judge, wno repeated his former observation. The process went on until nineteen pist is of all kinds woman shares her husband's work, and sizes and shapes lay upon the stand, together with nineteen dollars by their side. The Judge laughed as he complimented the nineteen delinquents upon being men of business, but added that the man whom he had seen with the pistol had not come up and, glancing at the far side of the court, be con-

tinued: "I will give him one minute to accept my proposition, and if he fails I will

hand him over to the sheriff." Immediately two men from the back of the court rose and began to move toward the Judge's stand. Once they stopped to look at each other, and then. coming slowly forward, laid down their pistols and their dollars. As they turned their backs the Judge said;

"This man with the black whiskers is the one that I originally saw."-New York Press.

Reading Manuscripts. would be a revelation to the young writers who complain that every word of their stories is not read, to see how fast an experienced and conscientious editor can, at times, go through a big pile of essays, stories or poems Most of our troubles are easier to The title is often enough, and he would

The bridegroom, though distracted, had ward he spends the evening singing sense enough to rush to the city and doggerel songs to a strumping accommake inquiries of the chair bearers. paniment, tilted back in a chair against The coolies were dumfounded and ex- his own house wall or on the doorstep

Virginia's Natural Bridge.

The famous natural bridge ginia is situated in Rockbridge County advantage in her beautiful bridal and spans the mountain chasm in which gown. The bride appeared to have flows the little stream called Cedar creek, the bed of which is more than backward and forward, but could not two hundred feet below the surface of protest, because it is the custom for the plain. The middle of the arch is brides not to open their lips till the forty-five feet in perpendicular thickness, which increases to sixty feet at its juncture with the vast abutments. It is sixty feet wide, and its span is almost ninety feet. Across the top is a public road. For many years the name of Washington, cut in the rock forming one of the abutments when the Father of his Country was a lad, stood high above all others; but in 1818 a student of Washington College, Virginia, Piper by name, climbed from the foot to the top of the rock, and placed

his name above that of Washington.

A Story of Bismarck. Bismarck was for some time an of ficial reporter for one of the courts of justice. Upon one occasion, when questioning a witness, the latter made an impudent retort, whereupon the embryo Chancellor exclaimed, angrily: to let such a violation of this law pass "If you are not more respectful, I shall kick you out of the room!" "Young man," said the Judge, interrupting the proceedings, "I would have you understand that this is a dignified court of justice, and that if there is any kicking to be done the court will do it?" "Ah, you see," said Bismarck to the witness, "if you are not more respectful to me the court will kick you out of the room. So be careful, very careful, sir!"

Testing the Cleunness of Air. Prof. Dewar has recently devised a new method of testing the contaminalaid down a Colt's revolver and a dollar tion of air. A short time ago he exhibited before the Royal Institution two samples of liquid air in glass tubesone was made from air which had been washed to purify it from dust, soot, carbonic acid and other impurities. This, when condensed, was a pale blue liquid. The other sample was made by condensing the air of the lecture-room in which the audience was assembled, and was an opaque, blackish fluid, resembling soup in appearance.

"Polly Con."

An old lady lately asked President Hadley of Yale-be tells the story himself-what he was teaching. To his reply, "Economics," she said, thought-

"Oh, you teach the students to be economical. That is good. When I was a young lady they never learned to be economical until they got married."

The True Condition Briggs-Do you believe that the world s divided into two classes-those who borrow and those who lend?

Griggs-No. sir! My experience is that two other classes are much more prevalent-those who want to borrow and those who won't lend,-Pittsburg

Almost every man gets a notion when he is on the back of a horse that he subject." The next article begins with | Gen. Grant.

SOME AUTHENTIC EXAMPLES OF FREAK LEGISLATION.

Laughable Laws that Legislators Are Asked to Pass and Some Comical Once that Have Really Been Placed Upon the Statute Books.

freaks in our laws that are extremely funny. The last Legislature of the sovereign State of Missouri passed a bill called the "pure beer law" through both houses, and it was signed by the Governor. This provides that "no person or persons or corporation engaged in the brewing or manufacture of beer or | deny-let him meet me and I will beld other mait liquor shall use any substance, material or chemical, in the manufacture of beer or other mait liqnors other than pure hops or extract of hops, or pure barley, malt, or whole-some yeast or rice." Water is not mentioned, as as nothing but the above substances may be used the people of Missouri are wondering whether they will take their beer in solld form or how. Perhaps some one will come out with beer tablets.

Down in Texas the lower house passed what was called a "single tax law"-which it was with a vengeance. It provided that every unmarried man over 30 who had not "exerted due dillgence" in getting married should pay a fine of \$50 every year. In order to define "due diligence" the bachelor's fine was to be remitted if he brought in yearly an affidavit from some reputable woman that he had offered himself to her in marriage during the year.

In 1897 the Missouri Legislature also had a "single tax law," but it took the other tack and fined widows and maidens "not less than \$100 nor over \$500" for rejecting a man. It was finally amended to add to the fine the provision that the fair one should darn the socks and sew on buttons for the rejected sultor for six months. This laughed it out of the House.

But the West is not the only offender. New Jersey passed a law taxing bachelors in 1846, and as its repeal was never heard of, it may be still accumulating dust among the archives, and is one of those things the executive swears to enforce, but does not know of and practically cannot know because there are so many of them. But the 1898 New Jersey Legislature sent to be engrossed a law for taxing bachelors. It is about on a par with the one introduced in 1896, in the same State, prohibiting the picking of huckleberries with the feet.

At Albany one of the Tammany legislators who did not know a bill from a highwayman's billy was told he ought to have a law named after himself, so he introduced a measure and secured its passage through the Assembly which made it a penal offense to put less than thirteen oysters in an oyster stew. This would be hard on church

But this is not worse than the ordinance introduced luto the Common Council of New York City, which its mover explained as follows: "One of the greatest perils of this big city," he by street cars. Every person hit by a street car is struck by the front platform. Am I right? Of course I am. You never heard of a man being by the side of the car. Now the remedy urday to attend to the clocks." knocked down by the rear platform or simple. My resolution abolishes front | At a meeting of an autograph socie-

platforms.' Similar to this is bill No. 251 of the Kentucky Legislature, which reads: "It shall be unlawful for any person to fire or discharge at random any deadly weapon, whether said weapon be loaded or unloaded." Really that Legislature must have had in view the damage done by weapons thought to be un-

loaded. Michigan has on its statute books the Waite anti-treating law, passed in 1895, which prohibits the purchase of liquor to be given to another as a treat, and in South Carolina private dispensaries became so obnoxious that a bill was introduced making it unlawful for a citizen of that State to wear hip pockets in his trousers, the minimum penalty being \$150 and six months' impris-

Missouri would prevent its people from eating green watermelons by appointing a watermelon inspector, and the bill was only defeated when a venerable member moved that the inspector's title should be "The Official Plugger, Muncher and Taster of the State of Missouri." And also the same Legislature sent to engrossment a bill preventing card playing on the first day of the

The Ways of Royalty.

There have been many royal authors, and we wish sometimes there were yet another, a prince of pure blood and of a really great bouse, to tell us meaner folk how princes really feel about the etiquettes which environ them, says the Spectator. They seem so suffocating, yet they can hardly be really detested by those who obey them, or they would not have survived as they have done so many changes in the ways of

One or two etiquettes have died out, probably, because they wearied courtlers, who took advantage of changes of dynasty or the like silently to leave off obeying them; but enough remain to make of princes a caste separate la habits from mankind. No sovereign is now served, we imagine, on bended knee, nor does any one on whom a king's glance falls think it incumbent on him, as Cecil did, at once to kneel; but enough are left to make life very

It must be a horrid bore to a king never to be able to move without attendance, or to chat easily, or to enter or leave a room without exciting a commotion. Legend declares that Lord William Bentinck, finding the first of these etiquettes in full force when he took up his Indian vice roy alty, threatened to resign unless it could be abolished, and was relieved to find that he was absolute enough, provided he wrote the order, even to be able to alter an etiquette.

Queer Inscriptions.

Rough as the fighters of old were, the kept folded across is breast under his inscriptions which they put on their coat for safe keeping during the first swords often showed not only consid- few days the regiment was in Washing erable poetic instinct, but sentimental- ton.-Baltimore News.

A FEW FUNNY BILLS. ity. "Faithful in adversity" is such a sentence engraved on an old sword of the seventeenth century. In a collection of biades of the sixtcenth century are these inscriptions: "I quarrel." "God gives me speed, that my foe be beat indeed." "With this defense and God's will, all my enemies I shall still." "In battle I will let myself be used." When I my sword uplift in strife, God give the sluner eternal life," "Trust in God, bravely war, therein your fame and honor are." "Your aim alone be The Legislatures of the various States | God's great name. Who dares deny, in this country are responsible for some strike thou him lame." "Every soldier fine, look on this sign, and use his hand for God and the land."

On blades from the eighteenth century are these inscriptions: "Nothing better in the world thou hast than to hold love and friendship fast," "I serve." "A good blade 1-who would -it will cost him or blood or gold."-New York Press.



George Q. Cannon, the Umb statesman, once attended an irrigation congress, at which a drowsy delegate read a paper on artesian wells, which he declared always brought water except where they struck rock. He repeated this statement several times. At the fourth repetition he defled any one to deny the proposition, whereupon Cannon looked up and, in his full, musical voice, asked, "How do you account for Moses' success?"

Sir Henry Erskine once quelled a rlot in Edinburgh when Mrs. Siddons was playing to a crowded house in the largest theater in the town. A surly fellow in the pit refused to sit down, and a howl went up from all around him. The crowd was likely to do him and the house a damage, when Sir Henry came to the front of his box with the quiet statement: "Pray excuse the gentleman; don't you see it is only a tailor resting himself?" The man sat down without further urging.

When Henry Clay was stumping Kentucky for re-election, at one of his mass meetings an old hunter of wide political influence said: "Well, Harry. I've always been for you, but because of that vote" (which he named), "I'm goln' agin you." "Let me see your riffe," said Clay. It was handed up to "Is she a good rifle?" him. "Dld she ever miss fire?" "Well, yes, "Why didn't you throw her once." away?" The old hunter thought a moment and then said, "Harry, I'll try you agin." And Harry was elected.

Sir John Adye, who was Governor of Gibraltar fortress, always made himself closely acquainted with the work of whatever happened to be his department. Meeting a person once coming into the office late, the general asked him what time he was supposed to be on duty. "Oh!" was the reply, "I usually stroll in about eleven or twelve o'clock." "Stroll in?" said Sir John, in a rising tone; "then I presume you do said, "is the danger of being run down by street cars. Every person hit by a at two?" exclaimed the veteran, in his topmost note; "pray, may I ask what department you belong to?" said the stranger, "I come every Sat-

> ty, composed of young women, in Chicago, one particular celebrily who had remained obdurate to all requests for his signature was almost unanimously voted to be a "mean old thing." one girl who had not concurred in the general condemnation asserted that the others did not know how to manage this particular lion. "I'll show you," she declared, and forthwith wrote and mailed to the celebrity a request composed of only two words. They were, 'Autograph, please." At the next regular meeting the girl appeared triumphantly waving a sheet of letter paper over her head. It was the reply of the celebrity. He seemed reproachful. All he wrote was: "You must be pressed for time," with his signature

The late Timothy D. Crocker nearly thirty years ago was president of a lecture course association, and on the list of entertainers was Mark Twain. It was the custom for the president to introduce the speakers, and then to announce the program for the next entertainment in the course. On this particular evening Mr. Crocker and Mark came upon the platform and took their seats before a hall full of people Twain waited for his opportunity and stole a march on the dignified president by stepping to the front of the platform and saying: "Ladies and gentlemen, the next lecture in the course will be delivered two weeks from to-night by Blankety Blank. 1 have the great pleasure this evening of introducing to you Mark Twain." Then Mark paused a moment before he added: "I would always rather introduce myself, because then I am sure to get in all the facts." Mr. Crocker, rather embarrassed, was still sitting back in his chair, and the audience enjoyed the joke much better than he did.

Due to Economic Conditions According to Combe, boys born in the months of September, October, November, December, January and February are not so tall as those born in other months. Those born in November are the shortest. Girls, according to the same authority, born in December, January, February, March, April and May show a less length of body than those born in the remaining months. Those born from June to November are taller, but the tallest are born in August. To some extent these facts are attributed to economic conditions, for a child born in summer has genera

A Fing with a History. Among the flags hung in the new

ally better food and air.

memorial hall in the Massachusetts State House in Boston are those which the famous Sixth Massachusetts regiment carried in the fight in the streets of Baltimore on April 19, 1861, and throughout the civil war. The State flag of the regiment Chaplain Babbidge