

The observations of H. N. Thompson, conservator of forests for southern Nigeria, indicate that the mahogany tree grows much more rapidly than the number of so-called annual rings suggests. Mr. Tnompson thinks that they show three or four wellmarked zones of growth each year, corresponding to the four seasons. Both forest trees and those grown in the botanical garden exhibit the same phenomenon. On the site of the town of Ijaye, destroyed sixty years ago, a forest has grown up containing mahogany trees with trunks exceeding ten feet in girth.

Electric baking ovens have long been available, but their use has not spread very rapidly, probably because of the cost, or the difficulty of procuring the requisite current. In the little Swiss town of Kerns, where electric power is cheap, the electric baking oven has just been established in a satisfactory manner. In a furnace less than eight feet long 100 pounds of bread, in loaves of one and three pounds each, can be baked at one time, and eight bakings can be made in twelve hours. The cost of the heating is a little more than one cent and three-quarters per pound of bread.

The brain of the celebrated chemist, Mendeleef, has been dissected and studied by Professors W. von Bechterew and R. Weinberg. It was above the average size, but not remarkably so, the weight being 1,571 gramsabout 50 2-3 ounces. The convolutions were found to be simple in arrangement, and from mere examination, it is said, no one could have formed any opinion of the very special qualities manifested by its living possessor. Only two features were in any degree peculiar-a highly convoluted part of the left parietal lobe and a comparatively small and simple temporal lobe. For comparison it may be recalled that Cuvier's brain is said to have weighed 641/2 ounces and Gambetta's only 39 ounces.

In a recent lecture before the International Congress of Applied Chemistry Sir Boverton Redwood enumerated the principal advantages of petroleum as fuel. Its thermal efficiency as compared with coal is reckoned by the British Admiralty as 18 to 10; it does not, like coal, demand that a thick bed of incandescent fuel be ready before active combustion is produced; it is relatively clean, and requires little labor; it is admirably suited to fueling a vessel at sea by a simple flexible pipe; the combustion can be controlled with precision, and quickly brought to the highest efficiency or cut off entirely. Still, the lecturer thought that liquid fuel will never entirely displace coal, because the supply is not likely to be sufficient.

An interesting example of the way in which modern seismographs detect at a distance of many thousand miles the location of earthquakes occurring is afforded by what happened on October 22. Prof. Milne at the Isle of Wight noticed shocks whose point of origin was about 80 degrees distant, corresponding to the distance of Japan, San Francisco, and Mexico. He thought it possible that the true point was in the east. At the same time Prof. Belar at Laibach, Austria, noticed the shocks, and declared that the center of disturbance must be about 3,750 miles to the east. The next day the telegraph brought the news of a great earthquake, which had occurred at the time of the observations in Baluchistan, the town of Belput having suffered severely.

THE EDUCATION OF ARABELLA.

Vather and Mother Nearly Came to a Real Disagrement.

Mrs. Lyon lifted the embroidery from the work table at her side and began stitching at a long, fine strip of linen with dainty fingers.

"Do you know," she said, holding it up for closer inspection, "do you know, Edwin, that Arabella looks simply lovely in white?"

Mr. Lyon was so deeply absorbed in his editorial that he merely uttered a casual, disinterested "Indeed!"

"Yes," went on Arabella's mother, her enthusiasm quite unquenched by lack of sympathy. "She looks like an angel in white, really; I can't help thinking how lovely she will be when she graduates. I'm planning her a gown that will be a dream; frills and insertion, and all done by hand. Of course it will be a pity to hide it when she wears her cap and gown, but it must show underneath a little, and-"

Mr. Lyon, now thoroughly aroused. laid aside his newspaper. "If you're talking about Arabella going to college," he said, grimly, "you might as well give it up at once. I shall never give my consent, never! I nave always said that no daughter of mine should go to college, and I see no reason now why I should change my mind."

But, Edwin," pleaded his wife, "you

know now disappointed I was when I couldn't go-

"It was your greatest charm for me," gallantly interrupted Mr. Lyon.

"And I have always tried so hard to catch up with the other girls," went on Mrs. Lyon, unheedingly. "The literary clubs I've belonged to and the lectures I've attended-

"The one blot on your otherwise perfection," interrupted Mr. Lyon again, not so wisely this time, but his wife kept steadily to her theme.

"And I'm forever driven with the fear that I won't know things, andand I'm not going to have Arabella like that, and she's going to college!"

"Not if I have any influence with her!" said Arabella's father, and he clutched his paper so firmly that it absolutely rattled. "Give her all the pretty, frilly frocks you want to, but don't, don't put her in competition with men. Let her have the feminine, domestic virtues-

"Now, Edwin, that's nonsense, and you know it is!" answered Mrs. Lyon, with just as much emphasis. "Susy Lee went to college, and she married a poor man, and her housekeeping's faultless; and as for Lena Melleny, who didn't go, well, she never knew anything and she never will. Why, she doesn't even keep Arnold's socks darned! It's all the woman herself; college doesn't make a bit of difference."

"Well, all I've got to say," began Mr. Lyon, half rising in his excitement, is—" But his words of eloquent wisdom will never be known, for a sleepy "yi-yi-yiing" cry came from farther down the passage.

"There's Arabella now!" said Mrs. Lyon, getting up to leave the room. "I knew you'd wake her! You always do when you get so excited." Her voice trailed reproachfully down to the nursery, and in a moment more she came back with a blinking, rosy baby cuddled tight in her arms, for Arabella was just eight months old, and the united ages of her parents amounted, possibly, to fifty years.

Then something of the absurdity of their argument flashed across Mrs. Lyon's whimsical mind.

"And Arabelia not a year old! Aren't we sillies?" she demanded. Arabella crowed loudly in answer as her mother pulled out the frills of her white little "nighty." "Never mind, that was a real college yell, wasn't it, daugh-

Mr. Lyon laughed and returned to his paper. "Well, I'll have to agree with you in one thing, Bess," he said, as he gazed proudly at the fat bone of contention, "Arabella certainly does look corking in white!"-Youth's Com-

STONE AGE CUSTOMS.

Ancient Habits Still Endure Among

Natives of Rural Roumania. Customs and habits directly traceable back to the end of the stone age are still observed by the inhabitants of the remoter parts of rural Roumania, says Dr. Emil Fischer of Bucharest in the Umschau. The latest statistics show that there are still in Roumania over 54,000 cave dwellings in existence, in which a quarter of a million peasant folk live. These caves are almost as primitive in their arrangements as the original cave dwellings of the stone age.

As recently as in the eighties millet, the oldest Indo-Germanic grain, was still crushed in Roumania by means of hand mills and stored in peculiarly shaped granaries similar to those used by the natives of central Africa. Today the Roumanian peasants still use ancient plows. At funerals a repast named coliba is partaken of consisting of soaked and boiled corn the exact way corn was first prepared and eaten by the tribes of Europe.

Even to-day crabapples and wild pears are the only fruit known to the Roumanian peasant, and his vegetables are wild herbs boiled with oil pressed from sunflower, hemp and gourd seeds. Medical men in rural Roumania are still known among the peasantry as wizards.

Rough Passage.

"I hope and pray," remarked a gentleman as he left the steamer, "that I shall never have occasion to cross the sired. To get its beneficial ef-Atlantic again.

"Rough passage, eh?" queried a friend.

"Rough is no name for it. I had four kings beat three times."-New York Sun.

Before Election Out West. "Our ticket is bound to win in Frozen Dog."

"All over but the shouting, eh?" "All over but the shooting," explained the native politely.-Louisville Courier-Journal.

The Wrong Party.

Bill-Congratulations on your marriage, old man.

Will-Congratulate my wife, old boy; she got the best of men .- Harvard Lampoon.

If you appreciate modesty, talk with an old doctor. He'll never air his medical opinions, or be very sure of them

Don't Wait

For Spring to come, but legin to build up your system now by cleansing your blood of those impurities that have accumulated in it during the winter.

To build up your system now will help you through the sudden and extreme changes of weather at this season and very

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tablets called Sarsatabs. 100 Doses \$1.

Lived Too Fast.

"Poor fellow! He is quite broken down, and the doctor says that his condition is due to fast living."

"Fast living?"

"Yes; you see, he is a traveling man, and he was obliged to eat so many dining-car meals and lose so much sleep in sleepers that his constitution gave way."-Brooklyn Citizen.

The "Black-Hand" Business. Mrs. Bart-My husband got a letter day saying something dreadful would happen if he didn't send the writer a sum of money.

Mrs. Smart-My husband gets dunned for his bills, too .- Boston Transcript.

Quick As Wink.

If your eyes ache with a smarting, burning sensation and dizziness, use PETTIT'S EYE SALVE. All druggists or Howard Bros., Buffalo, N. Y.

And It Did.

"Roll on, thou mighty ocean!" The poet wrote his song. Ah, well, the bard has had his way, For ever since that fateful day The ocean has, in ceaseless play, Been rolling right along!

-Chicago Tribune.

Mothers will find Mrs. Winslow's Soothing Syrup the best remedy to use for their children auring the teething period.

As He Ground.

Tennyson had just begun to write the "Charge of the Light Brigade."

"Half a league, half a league, Half a league onward-Then he stopped.

"Sounds a good deal like 'Off agin. on agin, gone agin, Finnegan!" he said, knitting his brows.

But he went shead with it, and the fingle made a decided hit.-Chicago Tribune.

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Literally So.

"I hear your girl has a good trade how."

"Don't speak of it as a trade; it is a real calling."

"What is it?" "She is a telephone operator."-Bal-

timore American. Our Lucky Age.

"Speaking of the Wright brothers, it's a good thing for people who like to travel by water that Fulton lived good many years ago." Why that?"

"He would undoubtedly be trying to get an injunction on all the boats float."-Boston Herald.

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Fair, Fat and Tide-y.

A Kansan sat on the beach at Atlantic City watching a fair and very fat bather disporting herself in the surf. He knew nothing of tides and he did not notice that each succeeding wave came a little closer to his feet. At last an extra-big wave washed over his shoetons.

"Hey, there!" he yelled at the fair, fat bather. "Quit yer jumpin' up and down! D'ye want to drown me?"-Everybody's.

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Squabbling About Nothing. "To-day my wife and myself had the

most foolish squabble of our married career." "And what was the subject of your

discussion?" "How we would invest our money if we had any."-Kansas City Journal.

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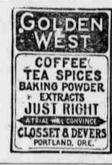
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