HOW THEY VOTE IN JAPAN.

Polls That Present a Striking Contract

to Ours in This Country. The polls had opened at 8 o'clock, and one by one the farmers had come straggling in from the surrounding country The greater number gathered in the small meeting hall just outside the polling room, whence arose a quiet buzzing. It was a reminder of the gathering in the churchyard on Sunday, in old times, between the morning and the afternoon

There was little laughter, less loud argument and no angry disputing. Evthe rest and move off toward the polling room, and anon another returned. One saw among them here and there the modern Japanese, with his imitation of foreign garments, in appearance seldom elegant, often awkward, and generally out of harmony with the surroundings. But chiefly there came the old fashioned rustic, in his best silk robes, with square shaven crown and short queue caught up and tied—perhaps wearing the hakama, or divided skirt, of the old samurai. A gentleman in every act, he bows as he enters to the official at the door, carefully writes his ballot and affixes his seal, then with great deliberation folds it and places it in the oblong official envelope. For some of the voters it is necessary to seek the assistance of a special clerk in writing their ballots. It is not that they cannot write; for everybody knows the plebeian kana or syllabic writing. They prefer to see their ballots inscribed with the more elegant Chinese characters; and then, too, the kana is sometimes ambiguous (for some words have a dozen different meanings), and there is a natural perturbation and a desire to have their meaning clearly and correctly conveyed. When the writing is finished the long sleeved voter walks over to the tachiainin, or inspectors. Here further effusions of politeanother gesture of courtesy, he turns to the ballot box, and with a bow, perhaps in duplicate, to the kind old mayor, who for the performance to begin. Utter insits behind the box, he carefully deposits his ballot and quietly retires by another door.-J. H. Wigmore in Scribner's.

Used to Being Married That Way. A wedding ceremony occurred some

years ago of a then United States senator, who, a widower twice over, had for present—that was all they could say. the third time succumbed to Cupid's wiles. At his first and second marriage the ceremony had been performed by an Episcopal clergyman, and hence the senator was quite familiar with the Episcopal marriage form.

But the beautiful woman who had captured his affections the third time was a devout Presbyterian, and naturally wished the connubial knot to be tied by a minister of her own church, and according to its simple service. To this the statesman lover made no objection. The character of the service was of small account to him so long as it served to unite him to the object of his adoration, and the thought that he might blunder in the course of it never disturbed for a moment the serenity of his

But, standing beside his bride to be, stage fright, as it might be called, seized him. In the excitement he began to marry himself, as it were, by the Episcopal service, repeating glibly: "I, take thee, —, to be my wedded wife," and he would probably have gone on to the end if the astonished Presbyterian minister, who immediately appreciated the situation, had not interposed, and, interrupting the bridegroom, performed the ceremony with the brevity of the Presbyterian form.

At the point where the perturbed groom seemed bent on doing the business for himself a distinguished brother senator present drew near to a lady, another guest, a close friend of his own and of the bridal pair, and whispered in a pitying tone:

"Poor —. He's used to being mar-ried by the other service."—Washington

Fallacy of Fish and Brain.

One popular fallacy in connection with particular food increases brain power. No one who has studied the subject can possibly believe the assertion. A man more than might probably suffice to tip about it the better. a couple of lucifer matches.

Communities have existed that lived almost solely on fish, but these ichthyintellectual attainments. Ner are our fisher villages, in many of which much fish is presumably consumed, the seats of any great amount of brain power. for genius, or even what is called common sense, their views of life and its resuperstition, which they lack sufficient

strength of mind to see through. No fishing community, so far as is known to the writer, has given to the world a great man. Men of markpoets, preachers, lawyers, philosophers, warriors and physicians - have emanated, in Scotland at any rate, from all classes except the fishing class.-Temple

Wasting His Breath.
Out at the ball grounds a small boy who occupied a pew in the bleachers said a funny thing. One of the Albany players was at the bat, and after a couple of balls and a strike had been called on him he hit a long foul to right field. He at once started for first base, and with head down plunged along in the same way that a steer is supposed to run through the corn. The small boy over in the bleachers watched him for a min-ute and then yelled out at the top of a very shrill and squeaky voice: "Say, cully, come back. You're working over-time."—Rochester Democrat.

#### COOPER AND SPIRITS.

WAS THE NOVELIST CONVERTED BY THE FOX SISTERS?

A Seance in Dr. Griswold's Office at Which Noted Men Were Present-Answers Through "Spirit Raps" Which Made a Profound Impression.

girls," of Rochester rappings fame, declaring that all the spirit sounds and ery now and then, like bees leaving a her toe joints, leads me to give an achive, a figure was seen to separate from count of a remarkable seance with these three girls at the time they paid their first visit to New York. After perusing it I think the reason will be satisfied, whatever of deception may have been practiced, that the toe joint story is an ineffable humbug

It was in 1850 that the Fox girls came to New York, astounding reports having preceded them of the noisy visitation of the spirits which had literally compelled them to leave their home. Dr. Rufus W. Griswold, the author and critic, occupied rooms at that time in Broadway, between Bleecker and Houston streets. These were on the first floor and held his large and valuable library.

He was an unbeliever in regard to the "rappings," not only so far as any spiritual influences prevailed, but with respect to the production of the sounds themselves, which he pronounced "all trick." It was proposed to invite these girls the square mile in the cultivable regions to meet a number of gentlemen at Dr. Griswold's rooms, where it was expected the "spirits" would be present, when we felt confident of exposing the humbug. AN INTELLIGENT AUDIENCE.

The invitation was accepted. At the appointed hour the following gentlemen met in Dr. Griswold's apartments: J. Fenimore Cooper, George Bancroft, W. C. Bryant, the Rev. Dr. Hawkes, Dr. John W. Francis, Dr. E. E. Marcy, John ness take place, while the voter gives his name, number and address, and is girls came promptly. They were seated checked off on the register. Then, with by a table, but not near enough to touch statistics do not concern us of the presit. The company made a large circle ent generation very vitally. We can around it, and we all impatiently waited leave the solution to our great-grand-

credulity pervaded our little assembly. A half hour passed and the spirits made no sign. The girls were repeatedly asked how soon they would begin to demonstrate. They replied gravely that the spirits were not under their control; that they had intimated they would be

At length raps began to be heard, sounding like slight shocks from an electric battery. Questions were at once in order, and Dr. Francis took the floor. His interrogatories were leading ones, and at the end of a few minutes he resigned in favor of Dr. Hawkes, the Fox girls getting the best of it. With Dr. Hawkes, who had been bred a lawyer, things did not flow so smoothly with them, but there were several answers which excited surprise.

I was seated next to Mr. Cooper, and I perceived he exhibited much impatience desert lands which Mr. Ravenstein rewhile the questioning was going on. When Dr. Hawkes finished, Cooper exclaimed, "Let me have hold of them." He began accordingly. Here are the questions and answers

"Some years ago I lost a near relative. Was it a male or a female?" "A female."

'By a natural death or otherwise?'

'Otherwise. "Please rap the number of years since the person died."

INDISPUTABLE EVIDENCE. The rappings began. We all listened attentively, counting the number. As it ran from twenty to thirty, from thirty to forty, from forty to fifty hold our breath. The rappings stopped | tingency occurs.-Baltimore Sun. at fifty-eight. There was some discussion whether it was fifty-seven or fifty-eight, and it was rapped over again at fifty-

I had watched Cooper narrowly. As size measure about seven feet in length, the raps proceeded he became deadly five feet in girth and weigh about 800 turned on him.

by being thrown from her horse. The summer and two in winter. years since then have been correctly rapped."

I saw that Cooper was profoundly affish may be noticed, namely, the oft re- fected. This did not, however, stop the peated assertion that the eating of that proceedings. Mr. Bancroft suggested that the rappings should be transferred to the door, he being on one side and oil from the blubber gives an excellent Bryant on the other. No questions were light and is in demand along the coast asked, but the raps came out strong. might eat a large portion of fish every asked, but the raps came out strong. day of his life, and on the day of his After some further experiments we addeath, if the quantity of phosphorus (the journed with the feeling that we had not brain invigorator) consumed were to be- succeeded in "confounding the Fox come visible, it would not amount to girls," and we agreed that the least said

Fenimore Cooper died about eighteen months after this occurrence. Two or three years later I was dining with Mr. ophagists were certainly not famous for Phinney of the book firm of Ivison & Phinney, and a near connection of Mr. Cooper's. In the course of convergation he asked me if I knew Cooper had become a confirmed spiritualist before his None of our fisherfolks are remarkable death. I said I did not. He assured me of the fact, but could not account for it. I told him I believed I could account for sponsibilities being shrouded in a haze of it, and I repeated to him what I have superstition, which they lack sufficient now recorded here.—Richard B. Kimball in New York Times.

> Are We Physically Advancing? Edward Atkinson has examined the records of hundreds of ready made clothing establishments to discover whether the white man of the United States is deteriorating in size and weight. As the general result it was found that the average height of the New Englander is 5 feet 84 inches and of the southerner 5 feet 10 inches. The average weight of the American of today is between 155 and 160 pounds. Mr. Atkinson discovered that the average height and weight of men in this country has perceptibly increased since the war of 1861-5, and that we are slowly increasing rather than decreasing in size and strength.-St. Louis Republic.

Apropos of Chappie. "You broke that poor boy all up." "No harm done. He is so simple it won't be hard to put him together again."-New York Epoch.

FAMINE OF THE FUTURE.

Possibilities of the Extinction of the Human Race by Starvation. Mr. Ravenstein, a member of the British association for the advancement of science, has been computing the probable increase of the human race on the earth. He arrives at the startling conclusion that in 182 years the density of population upon the globe will be such that the means of subsistence will be in-The statement by one of the "Fox adequate to its support. He estimates the population of the world of the present year at 1,468,000,000. He finds that noises were caused by the cracking of the average increase every ten years is about 8 per cent.

The section of the country still open to. colonization comprises parts of Africa, North and South America, Australia, some outlying islands, the steppes and deserts. The total area of all the habitable lands in the world is over 46,000,000 of square miles. Of this area the fertile or comparatively fertile lands are over 28,000,000 of square miles, the bare grass lands or steppes 14,000,000, and the bare deserts 4,000,180 square miles.

To the steppes he allocates a population of ten to the square mile, and to the desert regions one to the square mile. The bulk of the population would, therefore, have to subsist on the 28,000,000 square miles of fertile lands. Comparing the density of population-in India 175 to the square mile, in China 295 to the square mile and in Japan 264 to the square mile-he arrives at the conclusion that a world population of 207 to would be a fair estimate.

This 207 persons to the square mile will be reached in 182 years at the present rate of increase, when the total population of the cultivable area would be 5,850,700,000, and the total number the earth would feed 5,994,000,000.

Any further increase of population must either be provided for by a diminution of subsistence to each individual or by some improved mode of production, or by keeping down the future birth rate below the death rate. Mr. Ravenstein's leave the solution to our great-grandchildren. We have increased and multiplied very comfortably in spite of the lugubrious warnings of Mr. Malthus, and perhaps they also will multiply and increase in spite of Mr. Ravenstein.

If any race must go to the wall, it may be confidently predicted it will not be the white race. There will be a Darwinian survival of the fittest. The weaker races will disappear before the The Indian will ultimately stronger. vanish from this continent, and the African in his native land bids fair to be

The tendency of population to the cities must also be taken into account in any comparison of people to areas of reasonable subsistence. Concentration in large towns always tends to increased production within a wide circuit around them. especially in the line of fruits and vege-tables. Two hundred years hence the gards as incapable of cultivation may blossom as the rose. Already irrigation is working wonders in the unpromising soil in some of our western states. Modern science will teach many ways of increasing the food supply.

Mr. Ravenstein's speculations are plausible and his statistics suggestive enough, but the figures of today may be utterly falsified by the figures of 200

Oil from the Porpolse.

The porpoises killed in winter are the fattest and produce most oil. The largest size measure about seven feet in length, At the conclusion all eyes were pounds. Such a porpoise yields from six to seven gallons of oil. The blubber of a "Gentlemen," said he, "when I was big porpoise weighs about 100 pounds about two years old my sister was killed and is one and a half inches thick in

The jaws of the porpoise yield a su-perior quality of oil. When hung up in the sun it readily drips away into cans provided for the purpose, the quantity of oil thus procured, however, being not more than half a pint to the jaw. The for lighthouse use. It has no offensive

Porpoise shooting is followed at all seasons and in all kinds of weather. On a calm summer's day the porpoise may be heard blowing a mile or two away. If you would a porpoise, and there are any sharks around, the shark is very apt to share your booty with you even if he doesn't devour it in toto.-New York

A Sweeping Charge.

Nine men out of every ten one meets. if the possessor of a watch, can safely be put down as carrying a cheap, unreliable combination of works and case some unprincipled tradesman has palmed off on him as a good watch and timekeeper. The tenth man, if he has purchased a really good watch and timekeeper from some reliable jeweler, has paid about 500 per cent. more for it than he should have done, and this is the very reason why the other nine men carry such remarkably bad timepieces. They cannot afford to pay the extra 500 per cent, heretofore necessary to secure good works and a war-ranted case, and are therefore swindled. -New York Truth.

If Your Shoes Are Wet.

When you come home with wet feet don't throw aside your boots to get hard and moldy. Stand them up. put them in shape, and then fill them with oats, such as they feed to horses. This will, in a few hours, draw all the moisture out of the leather, keeping the boot in shape meanwhile, and leaving it soft and pliable. The oats can be used again and again. This is a relic of the days when no railroads existed, and traveling was done under difficulties and in weath er the present generation has no conception of .- Ladies' Home Journal.

The London Lancet has just recorded a remarkable case, which adds one more to the list of those which have been placed on record to show what a man will eat in order to satisfy the cravings

of his stomach and the pain he suffers when he is starving. The body of an Arab, who was a stowaway on a ship which had just arrived, was found in the hold, and was conveyed to the Seaman's hospital at Green-

wich, where a post mortem was made. The physicians noticed that the body was greatly emaciated, and on opening it several hard bodies were observed in the intestines. The alimentary canal was thereupon opened, and in it they found the following objects, which practically turned the man's intestines into a

The articles were: Twenty tronsers buttons, three cog wheels, apparently portions of a watch; a 2-inch screw, which was bent double; a 1-inch screw, six pieces of a lock, the largest being half an inch long and half an inch broad; a circular piece of brass, several pieces of iron ware, some bits of brass and lead and two key tallies on a ring an inch long. The weight of these various articles in mass amounted to exactly half a pound.

sort of museum.

Persevering Sparrows.

The time of one housekeeper has been pretty well occupied this season trying to break up the business of a pair of sparrows who have determined that they are going to raise a family in a particular spot under the roof of her side piazza. The first nest was removed and some wire screen drawn across the opening, but the birds picked and pulled away enough of it to wriggle their little bodies through sideways, and built again. She swashed them out this time with the garden hose, but in a little while another nest was located and four eggs deposited

The drowning out scheme was tried once more, but the birds didn't seem to mind, and investigation showed that they had roofed the nest over so that it shed rain like an umbrella, and only a little hole was left under one side for them to crawl into With the perseverance of her sex the lady pulled the nest down for the third time, and this week the birds began cheerfully on nest No. 4. It is pretty hard work to discourage an English sparrow.-Springfield Home-

The jewels of that ill fated queen, Marie Antoinette, whose tragic death glorifies a frivolous life, are now on sale in London. The price of a single pair of earrings is \$65,000, but the stones are of wonderful brilliancy. A large pointed drop, cut in facets like the pendants of chandeliers, is suspended from a large circular diamond by a tiny silver pin, diamond headed.

### Dimples.

The old idea of 40 years ago was that facial eruptions were due to a "blood humor," for which they gave potash. Thus all the old Sarse parillas contain potash, a most objectionable and drastic mineral, that instead of decreasing actually creates more eruptions. You have no ticed this when taking other Sarsaparillas than Joy's. It is however now known that the stom ach, the blood creating power, is the seat of all vitiating or cleansing operations. A stomach years hence. Many things may inter-the blood, result pimples. A clean stomach and vene in the meantime to keep down pop-healthful digestion purifies it and they disappear. Ulation or increase the food supply. The Thus Joy's Vegetable Sarsaparilla is compounded extinction of the race by starvation is a after the modern idea to regulate the bowels and very remote contingency indeed, and Mr. Ravenstein's 183 years bid fair to stretch out indefinitely before that contingency occurs.—Baltimore Sun.

attimulate the digestion. The effect is immediate and most satisfactory. A short testimonial to contrast the action of the potash Sarsaparillas and Joy's modern vegetable preparation. Mrs. to break out on my face. Hearing that Joy's was a later preparation and acted differently, I tried it and the pimples immediately disappeared."

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creases every year in the principal Euto tea-drinking countries. But it does not grow in America. And not alone that, but thousands of Europeans who leave Europe ardent lovers of ten, upon arriving in the United States gradu ally discontinue its use, and finally cease it

This state of things is due to the fact that the Americans think so much of business and so little of their palates that they permit China and Japan to ship them their cheapest and most worthless teas. Between the wealthy classes of China and Japan and the exacting and cultivated tea-drinkers of Europe, the finer teas find a ready market. The balance of the crop comes to America. Is there any wonder, then, that our taste for tea does not appreciate?

In view of these facts, is there not an im mediate demand for the importation of a brand of tea that is guaranteed to be uncolored, unmanipulated, and of absolute purity? We think there is, and present Beech's Tea. Its purity is guaranteed in every respect. It has, therefore, more in-herent strength than the cheap teas you have been drinking, fully one third less being required for an infusion. This you will disover the first time you make it. Likewise, the flavor is delightful, being the natural fla-vor of an unadulterated article. It is a revelation to tea-drinkers. Sold only in packages

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