The Dalles Daily Chronicle.

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THE DALLES

- · OREGON

THE PARASOL ANT.

How the Industrious Insect Acquired Its

Queer Name.
The fact that the "parasol ant" of the West Indies has grown to be such a pest that the government of Trinidad has had to adopt appropriate legislation against its ravages draws attention to the remarkable habits of the little creature. It has been definitely determined that they do not cut the circular bite out of the leaves that they bear away so like a parasol over their heads, for the purpose of eating them, or for nest lining, as has been suggested. These bits of leaves are simply wanted as the soil on which to cultivate a certain sort of fungus that they feed upon; and the ants are as expert in its culture as any market gardener of Paris in the growing of his beloved mushrooms. A nest of these tiny agriculturists has thus been described by the director of public works of Trinidad, who has had them on his study table: "Each forager dropped his portion of leaf in the nest, and it was taken up by a small worker and carried to a clear space to cleaned. It was then taken in hand by the large workers, which, after licking it with their tongues, reduced it to a small, black ball of pulp. These balls were built on the edge of the already formed fungus bed, and slightly smoothed down. The new surface was then planted with portions of the fungus brought from other parts of the nest. Each piece is put in separately, and the ants know exactly how far apart the plants should be. It sometimes looks as if the bits of fungus had been put in too scantily in places, yet in about forty hours (if the humidity has been properly regulated) it is all evenly covered with a mantle as of very fine snow." When it is remembered that most persons who have tried the cultivation of edible fungi have failed, because of the difficulties arising from the handling of the spores and the maintenance of the needed humidity, it almost seems that we must concede to these tiny creatures a greater degree of agricultural skill than is possessed by the average farmer.

Dogs in Railroad Cars.

Belgium leads the way in the importance which it accords to dogs. According to a decision just issued by the government, which controls all the railroads of the kingdom, a dog is just as much entitled to a seat in a railroad compartment as its owner, providing the latter has purchased a ticket for the animal, and when a compartment made to hold ten persons contains eight human beings and two dogs, the compartment is henceforth to be regarded as full. It is to be hoped, however, that on busy days the dog passenger will be willing to stand to oblige a lady, though to judge from the favor which canine pets appear to enjoy in Belgium it seems more likely that la-

Orphans in Australia

According to the Medical Times of without an orphan asylum. Every-where local committees keep record of may be placed, and the children's com- or four thousand dollars a year. mittee of the destitute board selects a home suitable for each child that comes under its care. On an average one dollar and twenty-five cents a week is allowed for board and clothing, but in no case are foster parents selected who are so poor that the adopted child will suffer hardship. It must be sent to school regularly until the age of fourteen years, when it is put to work. The local committee watches over each adopted child and sees that the conditions are all fulfilled. The earnings of a boy of that class from fourteen to eighteen are put in the postal savings bank, and at the latter age he can begin his career with a little ready money. As a result the state has raised a citizen at a cost of seventy dollars a year and saved no end of outlay for courts, prisons and reforma-

A Leader.

Since its first introduction, electric bitters has gained rapidly in popular favor, until now it is clearly in the lead among pure medicinal tonics and alteratives-containing nothing which permits its use as a beverage or intoxicant it is recognized as the best and purest medicine for all ailments of stomach, liver or kidneys. It will cure sick headache, indigestion, constipation and drive maleria from the system. Satisfaction guaranteed with each bottle or the money will be refunded. Price only 50c. per bottle. Sold by Snipes & Kinersly.

"During the epidemic of la grippe Chamberlain's Cough Remedy took the lead here and was much better liked than any other medicine." H. M. BANGS, druggist, Chatsworth, Ill. The grip is much the same as a very severe cold and requires precisely the same treatment. This remedy is prompt and effectual and will prevent any tendency of the disease towards pneumonia. For sale by Blakeley & Houghton, druggists.

Ask your dealer for Mexican Silver Stove Polish.

Look Over Your County Warrants. All county warrants registered prior to January 16th, 1890, will be paid if

presented at my office, corner of Third and Washington streets. Interest ceases on and after this date.

WM. MICHELL, October 21st, 1893. tf

NORWEGIAN SUPERSTITIONS.

Men of Strong Nerves and the Beings of the Spirit World.

The simple faith of the Norwegian peasants is that the seeing or not seeing of beings of the other world is a mere question of strong or weak nerves. Only reversing, says All the Year Round, the generally accepted belief, it is the Northman of strong nerves who has power to see the un-seen. And he who sees it fears it not-"If you have the gift," says my informant. "you may see dozens and scores of forms pass your door, but you know not what it is to feel alarm."

"There's a ghost on every ship, says the same authority. "My own uncle, who saw the unseen plain from his childhood, was married to a woman who could not believe in spirits. He had a fishing smack of his own, and saw strange things of nights. One night he asked her to go out with him, and she went. 'If I see anything I will call for you,' he said, and she agreed to it. In 'the dark middle of the night he could see three men come walking on the water toward the little He went and called his wife.

saying: "'Look out now; do you see noth

"'No,' said the wife. 'I see nothing but the water and the darkness.'

"'Well,' said he, 'there are three men there, plain to be seen, and now I'll go and get up the nets, for a storm surely coming.

"Two o'clock was the wonted hour for getting up the nets, but wait he would not, in spite of all his wife could say to him.

"When two o'clock came the nets of all the other fishermen were lost and their boats nearly wrecked in a sudden great storm that rose, but my uncle was well out of it, and anchored in safety, because he could read the signs they were all blind to."

CHEAP RENTS.

How the Bailroads Have Affected Branches of Old Mobile's Business

A portion of the glory of Mobile, Ala., departed when, after years of labor, the railroads from the north were able to surmount the difficulties pre sented by marshland and bayou and continue their lines to New Orleans.

This affected certain branches of the business of the city materially, practically ruining the heavy trade in reshipping merchandise at Mobile to New Orleans, leaving giant warehouses tenantless and docks to rot and become grass grown.

The extent of the depreciation in value of some of the shipping property can be inferred from the following observations of a recently returned commercial traveler.

In walking through one of the old streets recently he saw on the ground floor of a huge five-story warehouse the striped pole and the sign of a barbershop and boot blacking establishment Walking in to have his shoes polished he inquired of the proprietor how much

"What, all of this immense building?" asked the drummer in surprise. "Why, how can you afford it? What do you pay for it?"

"Fifteen dollars a month," was the answer. "I use only what I want of dies will be requested to give up their | it, but my lease covers the whole prop-

Inquiry from merchants of the city confirmed the man's statement. The class of property had become absolute-Philadelphia Australia is a country ly useless by the altered conditions; enabling the barber to secure for fifteen dollars a month a building which tute child formerly rented for thirty-five hundred

> ONLY A FEW OF THEM LEFT. Xiphioid Whales Which Belong to Long-Past Geological Ages.

Prior to 1883 the naturalists of America knew nothing of xiphioid whales except from comparisons and the fossil records of the geological ages. During the year mentioned, however, one of these queer cretaceans was stranded upon the sands at Barnegat City, N. J. J. H. Ridgeway and his assistants managed to save the specimen, and im-mediately telegraphed for the officials of the National museum of Washington. They went, of course, and took all the apparatus necessary for preserving such a unique curiosity. Among these Smithsonian worthies were scientists of international reputation, vet the creature before them could not be assigned to its proper class until after the brain was critically and scientifically examined-this on account of its great rarity. Before removing the flesh preparatory to "making a skeleton" of the great creature's bones a plaster cast of the exterior was made. After this operation had been finished in all its minute details the meat was cut away and the bones carefully articulated. A scientific report of the incicloses as follows: "The xiphioid he market. whales have a most interesting history. * * * They really belong to the geological ages, and perhaps only a few stragglers are now leftin remote quarters of the globe. It would seem that they are but the surviving relies of a great race, which declined long ages before man appeared upon the

National Peculiarities.

It takes seven days after death, according to Siamese belief, for the soul to reach Heaven, and prayers are kept up during that period to help it on its

In Dutch Guiana the women carry upon their persons all the family savings in the shape of heavy bracelets,

The Spaniard, however courteous he may be, never invites a guest to din-In Italy, too, the privacy of the family is seldom invaded at the dinner hour. The members eat in silence.

The king of Assam has two hundred wives, who are divided into nine grades. When one of them dies her body is lowered from the roof of the palace to be buried; the law in Assam prohibits the carrying of a corpse through the doors.

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The Daily Chronicle is published every evening in the week Sundays excepted at \$6.00 per annum. The Weekly Chronicle on Fridays of each week at \$1.50 per annum.

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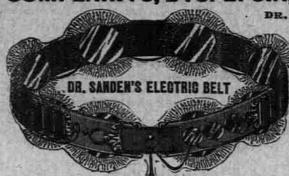
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San Francisco, Cal., August 14, 1992.

Dr. A. T. Sanden, Dear Str :— Before I used your belt.

I was troubled with lost vigor, vital weakness, and almost a complete loss of power. I would get up with a very tired feeling, bones aching, 6tc.; since using your belt. I have had a new lease of life. I now enjoy life better than I have for ten years past. I have the numer to nidecce in your treatment. You can publish this statement, also have others write or call on ma. Truly yours, H.A. BOWEN, 36 and 25 Turk St.

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mark comfortably, and feel like a new man generally.

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Tacoma, Wash, October 21, 1892.

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