

EDITORIALS

Opinions of Great Papers on Important Subjects.

BABEL COME AGAIN.

A N IOWA professor has composed a letter, presumed to have been written by a newly graduated college student, in which are 160 words habitually misspelled by the young men and women in his classes. He compiled them from fifty-eight examination papers. The words are those commonly used, both in writing and speaking, and the professor thinks that almost any teacher could furnish a similar list. We have no doubt of that.

But what encouragement have the students to adhere to conventional English spelling when the teachers themselves are straying after false orthographical gods? Here, for instance, is Prof. Otto Jespersen of the University of Copenhagen telling the students of Columbia University:

"Much would also be achieved if scholars of renown, philologists, students of literature and writers of books in general would indulge in some individual spellings, one in this class of words and another in some other class. These individual spellings need not be numerous, nor should they be necessarily consistent, and the author need not give any other reason for his special heterodoxies than that they suit his fancy. This would educate readers by showing them that different spellings need not always be marks of illiteracy and that there may exist difference of opinions in this as well as in other respects without any fear of human society falling at once to pieces on that account."

The professor's watchword is "every man for himself; show your individuality in your spelling." This is not spelling reform; it is anarchy. It is Babel come again. But it is cheerful news for the writers of those fifty-eight examination papers.—Chicago Tribune.

COST OF LIVING.

THE cost of living is increased by higher rents and advanced prices for food products. Every salaried employee in cities is painfully conscious that living expenses are advanced in the past five years fully 25 per cent. If the advance in the cost of living has not been accompanied with a corresponding rise in salary strenuous economy has to be practiced. It is a pleasant experience to be able to increase the style of living, but a painful hardship to be forced to live in cheaper quarters and strenuously economize in household expenses.

Wheat is averaging 20 per cent higher than the average of the past five years and \$1 wheat is likely to hold firm indefinitely, as domestic consumptive demand is rapidly overtaking production. Corn is high, and as it is the foundation of meat production meat is also destined to rule high until there is a great reduction in the expense of exploiting animal husbandry. If the population of cities forecasts the future there is but faint prospect that living expenses in cities will be cheaper in the next decade than at the present time. One cause of the high expense of living in cities is the cost of municipal

government and the tendency to exploit taxpayers with high-salaried officials and costly public improvements.

The problem to be solved to reduce living expenses is to have a better balanced population. The massing of the greater portion of the people in cities and the tendency of migration from rural districts to centers of population are largely the cause of increased living expenses. In 1860 only 16.1 per cent of the people lived in cities and in 1900 there were 31.1 per cent, a gain of around 50 per cent in forty years. Cities increase in population in a faster ratio than rural districts and so long as this regime prevails food products will rule high. A well-balanced population demands an exodus from cities to the country, where undeveloped agriculture awaits the hand of labor to produce bountiful harvests that will find a world's market at good prices.—Goodall's Farmer.

THE PASSING OF PORT ARTHUR.

THE Japanese have decided to open Port Arthur to the commerce of the world. That is to say, the fortress, which they have never rehabilitated since the siege, is to be virtually abandoned as the Gibraltar of the Far East. The decision is set down as an effort to reconcile others to Japanese encroachments in Manchuria. But the truth, no doubt, is that the decision is dictated by sound military reasons.

Port Arthur as a fortress may have been valuable to Russia, although, if the Russians had blown up the defenses and evacuated the place, concentrating all their armies at Liao-yang, it would have been better for them. But Port Arthur as a naval base in an exposed position would be only a weakness to Japan, who has better protected naval bases within striking distance both in Korea and in her own islands. Occupying Port Arthur as a fortified naval base would in the event of war impose upon the Japanese the initial necessity of defending it, which would hamper her offense and divide her force. Japan cannot afford to have the fortress in another's hand; but, possessed by herself, it is best to dismantle it.—Minneapolis Journal.

THE FARMER.

NOT so many years ago "farmer" was about as scornful a slang term as could be applied to anybody who blundered, stumbled or "got in bad." But what would the average man in the streets say to-day if somebody shouted to him "You farmer?" Wouldn't he throw his chest out and spring a smile as broad as if he owned a gold mine? He certainly would.

The farmer doesn't wear his hayseed in his hair any longer. He sells it and buys an automobile. And when "doctor, lawyer, merchant, chief" point their fingers at him and say, "You're it," he merely throws on the speed clutch and smiles back along the wind.—Chicago Record-Herald.

drea del Sarto because it struck me that Sarto was the name of the present pope, and it would be interesting to see if they are related. And I wonder—"

Their Lazy Club.

In the engineering shops of a certain English firm the workmen of a year or two ago originated what they called the Lazy club. It was entirely their own idea, which for obvious reasons has received neither recognition nor financial support from the management, but has been the most excellent means of reducing the number of late comers.

Whenever a workman is more than five minutes after time he finds the gate locked, and he is not allowed to enter until the half hour is up.

This half hour is deducted from his wages, but in addition he has also to pay to the treasurer of the Lazy club about 5 cents for coming late.

If he is late more than once or so during a week everybody is aware of the fact, and the second or third time he makes his appearance after starting time he is greeted with a terrific combination of noises produced on any available material by his fellow workmen.

At certain periods the accumulated funds of the Lazy club are divided, not among those who have produced them, it should be noted, but among the entire staff equally. Thus the late workman is made to pay the early comers for his laziness.

The last distribution was just prior to a "bean feast," and funds accumulated during twelve months were distributed, amounting to over \$1.75 a head.—System.

OVERBOARD IN THE TIGRIS.

From Diarbekr to Baghdad, as a crow might do it, the distance is about four hundred miles. As the kelek goes—a contrivance sacred to the river Tigris since the days of Adam and Eve—the distance is high upon a thousand miles; and the time occupied anywhere between the short cut and twenty days. In "The Short Cut to India," David Fraser tells of the kelek and of his journey.

The kelek is easily constructed. Take any number of inflated goatskins from one hundred up to eight hundred, and tie them in rows underneath a framework of light poplar poles. One of two pairs of great oars complete the ship, and it is ready for crew, cargo and passengers.

When a "globe-trotter" ships aboard a kelek some of the cargo is left behind, and upon the space thus left vacant a hut is erected. A light wooden framework is hung round with cotton walls that roll up or let down, according to the desire of the occupant. In addition, the roof has a thick grass mat to keep out the sun.

The traveler enjoys entire privacy as regards the people on his own kelek, for he gives orders that nobody is to come aboard his gable. At the end of his little house, and projecting astern of the raft, is a tiny bathroom protected from public gaze by cloth walls.

Thus the kelek combines all the advantages of a modern mansion, living room, kitchen, sanitary arrangements, abundant light and air, and panoramic scenery that is an eternal feast for the eye.

We sailed one morning at 10 o'clock, with the temperature over a hundred

in the shade. But heat may be corrected by a minimum of clothes and a maximum of cold water. The Tigris comes straight from the mountain snows of Kurdistan, and its flood was like ice compared with the fire of the air.

For a man who could not put on his own socks or tie the buttons of his waistcoat, and doubled up, moreover, with a chronic lumbago, that first plunge overboard was rather a venture. I looked for a long time before I leaped, thinking the while that although a man may forget how to sing, or dance, or pray, he can never forget how to swim, and then I shut my eyes and jumped. For my faith I was magnificently rewarded, and that first swim in the brimming Tigris was absolutely and completely glorious.

There was a mild adventure, too. Suddenly the water deepened, and I swam frantically after the kelek. Just as I caught up with it, the river shallowed again. I tried to jump aboard, but the jagged projecting poles of the framework made throwing oneself forward most difficult. The pace was so great that no sooner had I lifted a foot than the kelek slipped away from it, and with my weak hands I could not help the situation. A deepening of the water resulted in rescue from a ridiculous and uncomfortable position.

FOOTWEAR CAUSE OF WOE.

Pump Is Rough on Silk Stockings, but Girls Will Wear Them.
The bachelor maid twisted her pretty foot around and looked ruefully at the heel of her silk stocking, just above the top of her patent leather pump.

"What do I care about airships?" she exclaimed mournfully, "or wireless telegraph improvements or deep-sea navigation? What women most need is some kind of an invention that will keep pumps from cutting through stockings just above the heel. That would meet a real human need. I paid \$3 for those stockings and this is the second time I have worn them. One pump has cut a long gash, as you see, and it is useless to mend it. The same kind of a gash would be cut through the mending silk in a few hours."

"Why not abandon the wearing of pumps? Oh, horrors, no! They are the most adorable footwear on earth. No sane woman would be willing to surrender them. I will wear cheaper stockings, if I must, but give up pumps, never! Surely there must be enough ingenuity in the whole world to rise to this demand. I believe a manufacturer who would devise some means, either on the pump or in the stocking, to obviate this difficulty would wax rich."

Bachelor cousin had a brilliant idea. "Couldn't some leader of fashion make it the style to leave an open space in all stockings, just above the heel, so there would be nothing to cut away?" "Except the skin! Wretch!"

There being no Indians or bandits or perilous adventures these days, it is easy for any man to tell his wife he is brave, and make it good.

Nearly every one can find a lot of ways to reduce expenses, but that isn't what people are looking for; they want to reduce prices.

Agents and cyclones should be dodged; you can't bluff them.

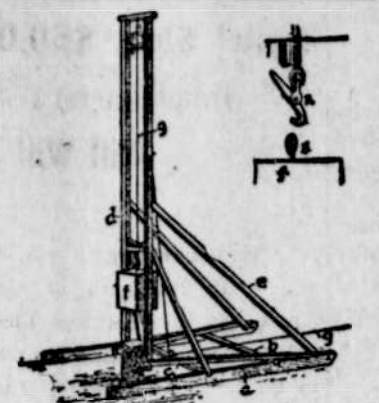
People pretend to hate sin, but they all love it.



A Post Driver.

A homemade arrangement for driving piles or posts is shown in the sketch. I consider a post driver one of the most useful implements that I have on the farm, writes J. L. Macomber in Farm and Home. This device is of very simple construction, and aside from the few pieces of iron, pulleys and the rope, any farmer can make it at home.

The runners, a, are 9 ft. long, made of good solid oak 6x4 in. thick. The



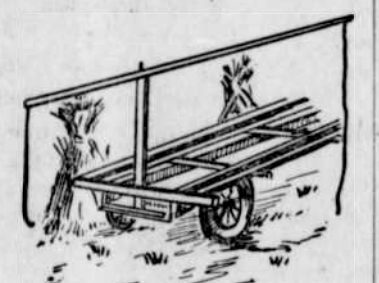
THE HOME-MADE POST DRIVER.

crosspieces, b, are of 4x4 oak, placed about 3 ft. apart. Firm braces, c, of 2x6 scantling, will strengthen the frame. The uprights, d, are 14 or 16 ft. long, as desired, of 4x4 oak. The braces, e, may be 2x4. For the weight, f, a wooden block may be used, which is either square or round. It should be about 18 inches in diameter and 2 1/2 ft. long, of solid oak or hickory. Some wood that will not split readily is best. Grooves should be made in the side of the weight to take in the full width of the uprights. It is a good plan to bore an inch hole through the rear end of each runner, through which a peg may be driven to hold the device in position while the post is being driven.

The working of this device is simple. The weight is drawn up by horses hitched to the end of a rope, and when it arrives at the top of the uprights it is released by the hook, 2, striking the block, 1, unhooking it from the ring, 3, which is attached to the driver block. Four or five blows will usually drive a pointed post to the required depth. Two men and a team will drive one-half to three-quarters of a mile of posts in a day. The cost of such an implement is about \$5, and will pay for itself in a short time.

Swing for Loading Fodder.

There are a large number of contrivances made for loading shock fodder onto a wagon, some better than others. The illustration herewith shown is one that is in use in some localities where a good deal of fodder is cut up. The rear ladder is substituted with a stout post, well anchored to the rack, on top of which is a pole so adjusted as to be able to reach out to one side for the fodder and the other with proper



FOR LOADING FODDER.

leverage. A rope or a chain attached to the short end of pole is thrown around the shock about half way up, and a fork handle thrust through above it so it will stay there and the whole shock is lifted on the rack.—Farm and Home.

Let Her Scratch.

The importance of exercise for poultry might well be placed subordinate only to good housing and feeding. But a writer in an agricultural monthly pertinently remarks that "scratching

to get a minute's peace from mites and other pests is not the right kind of exercise." The truth is obvious. Give the fowls plenty of encouragement to scratch for their grain feed by keeping a portion of each pen deeply bedded with leaves or straw. There is nothing like it for promoting thrift and contentment among a flock of fowls in the winter, and it is also a great aid toward getting fertile, hatchable eggs.

Small Farms.

The farm unit is gradually becoming smaller with the advance in the price of land. A well known real estate agent in a certain locality told us recently that he had ten times as many calls for 40 acres as for 160 acre farms. The small farm is the best farm, all things considered, and people are gradually coming to realize it and to look for small farms when purchasing. The farmer of to-day is beginning to learn that it is better to tramp over less ground and grow more to the acre. The taxes and fences on a large farm sometimes amount to more than the crops. There is great economy in all lines in the cultivation and management of a small farm. When the farmer knows that he has but a few acres to plant to corn, or any other crop he will use better seed, fertilize more heavily and cultivate better. If he grows seventy to eighty bushels to the acre, say on ten acres he is much better off than the larger farmer who cultivates twice as much and gets only thirty to forty bushels of corn to the acre.—Chicago Weekly Inter Ocean.

Killing Weeds.

A great deal is heard about chemical weed destroyers and improved methods for eradicating weeds. Some of the improved methods are worthy of the means of destroying many of the weeds. Many of them, however, are not practical and should never be considered by the farmer.

Professor Beal of the Michigan station comes forward with an entirely new means of destroying weeds which, if followed, is certainly the most practical of all other methods, except the hoe. The professor says that where soils are reasonably rich as a result of the growth of legume, there are few weeds. Lands which have been in alfalfa or clover for a number of years have few weeds. For all weedy lands the professor suggests that the farmer seed the land down for either alfalfa or clover and to make sure that the seeding is sufficient to cover the ground. Keep the ground in legume for a number of years and the weeds will nearly all be destroyed. This sounds much more sensible than chemical destroyers.

Labor-Saving Log-Roller.

On every farm where there is timber of large size there ought to be a canthook, an implement shown in the picture from Farm World, for the purpose of moving heavy logs. It will save a tremendous amount of heavy lifting and one man with a canthook can do as much or even more than two without it. The handle should be about 5 feet long and the iron hook about 12 inches. Or if very large logs are to be used, 15 inches. The hook should work loosely on a bolt through the handle and the "business end" be slightly curved inward and always kept sharp.

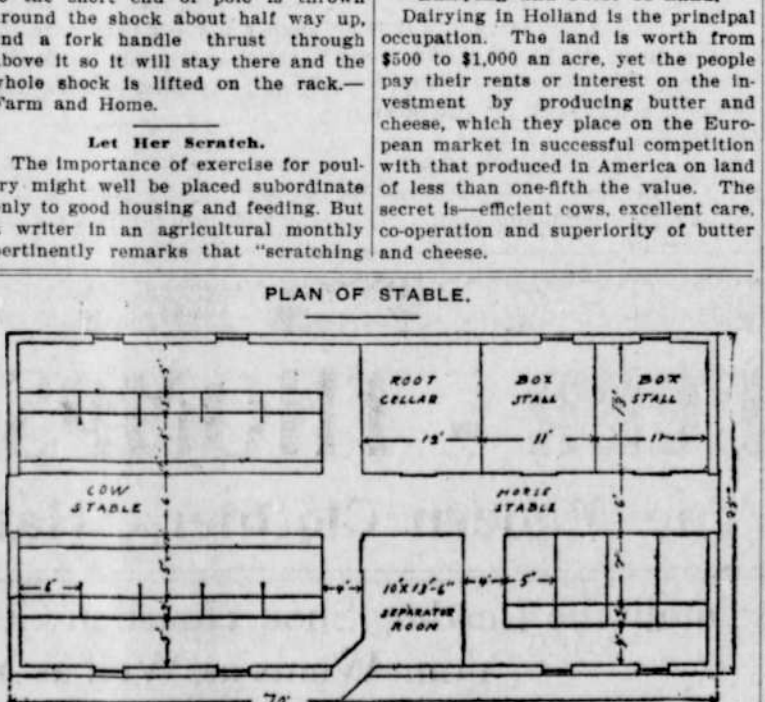


Selecting Laying Hens. Not enough importance is usually attached to the selection of laying hens. They must be properly cared for, if they are to lay well during both winter and summer. Houses must be kept sanitary and the fowls free from vermin. Care must be exercised to avoid their being chased by dogs or other animals, or unnecessarily frightened. Poultry houses must be well ventilated, and one or more windows should be opened every bright day, so that the house will not become warm during the day and grow cold again at night.

Dairying and Price of Land.

Dairying in Holland is the principal occupation. The land is worth from \$500 to \$1,000 an acre, yet the people pay their rents or interest on the investment by producing butter and cheese, which they place on the European market in successful competition with that produced in America on land of less than one-fifth the value. The secret is—efficient cows, excellent care, co-operation and superiority of butter and cheese.

PLAN OF STABLE.



The accompanying plan is a very convenient stable arrangement at economical of room. Rolling doors are shown on almost all the openings, but swing doors can be substituted if desired. Corrugated iron is recommended for the roof, as the wood covering to which roofing is attached may be only 1 1/2 inch strips spaced 20 to 24 inches on centers. About forty-one squares will cover roof and to give nicely proportioned building the rafters exclusive of projections should be the same length on both roofs and the slope of the lower should be 55 degrees from the horizontal, while that of the upper will be 34 degrees. To frame and inclose barn alone would cost about \$200.

Farm Notes.

Pile potting soil in the sun to sweeten, turning often. Proper feed and care is the secret of healthy chickens. Transplant shrubs and vines as soon as the foliage ripens. Remove all dead stalks and dried leaves from the flower beds.

A ration of wheat and corn is beneficial to the fattening turkeys. It is a great mistake to mark a hog by mutilating its ears. Butter use a metal tag.

Pull and burn every weed you can reach. Provide plenty of ventilation for your henhouse. Do not feed poultry too much barley. A little will go a long way. It is a hard matter to overfeed the pullets at this time, for the extra nutrition is put into eggs.

The idea of perfect comfort should predominate in every building that is constructed for the hogs. Ashes sprinkled in the nests first and two or three moth balls put in the nests will keep lice away.

SOME COMFORT TO KNOW THIS.

Woman with Wonderful Jewels May Not Have a Beautiful Neck.

"I have come to regard some of the women who sit on the horsehoe at the opera as our greatest public benefactors," said the bachelor man, according to the New York Press.

"I suppose you are driving at something metaphysical?"

"Both physical and metaphysical, I think. You see, when some of them wear décollete gowns, in spite of the fact that their necks really are not fit for publication, it gives those of us who have to sit down in the orchestra—or perchance up among the true music lovers—a comfortable feeling to observe that money will not buy everything. If we see an ugly neck banded with diamonds as big as English walnuts or circled with pigeon egg rubies we chuckle inwardly as we realize that our cheap little gown conceals a swan-like grace and beauty of neck for which madame gladly would surrender half the jewels of her house. If through our glasses we discern lines of care, hardness and worry, we sit back complacently and look as pretty as we know how, letting youth and good looks compensate us for lacking the cares of state or estate. Or, even if we have no conspicuous good looks, we still may know that the question of magnificent dressing and display is merely one of price. We also could adorn the horsehoe as well as half of those who sit therein if we had the expense. It is not a question of intelligence, talent, birth, greatness of soul, love for humanity, dignity of character, worth in the world or to mankind—but simply and solely of price. We therefore may look at them without envy, without bitterness, without dissatisfaction with either them or ourselves; simply with the understanding that they represent what they have paid for and what they have been willing to pay for—and so do we; which seems to me perfectly fair all around. As they thus furnish us a basis for contentment, I regard them public benefactors."

Book News and Reviews.

M. Maeterlinck's version of "Macbeth" as it was produced at his country home, Saint Wandrille, is to be published immediately in Paris.

The memorial which Englishmen have designed for Tennyson is the restoration of the little Somerset church near which he was born, and the placing therein of a reproduction in bronze of Wooler's bust of the poet. Three-quarters of the necessary sum has been raised—and there the subscription halts.

"How Americans Are Governed" is the title of a forthcoming book written by Crittenden Marriott, whose most recent work for youthful readers was called "Uncle Sam's Business."

The new volume will tell the story of the methods and power of national, State and city government in a way to command the attention of the young.

At the sale in London the other day of twenty-four letters written by Beethoven, Herr Kinsky of the Bologna Museum proved to be the fortunate bidder. He paid \$3,300 for them. They deal chiefly with family matters connected with the composer's worthless nephew, Karl, whom he loved in spite of the youth's worthlessness. A long memorandum extending to forty-six pages is the longest manuscript in Beethoven's handwriting that is known.

Frederick Greenwood was asked by four different publishers to write his "remembrances," but after some hesitation he declined, writing only fragments of such a book. Mr. Greenwood, after Thackeray resigned the Cornhill took up the duties of editor. Later he became absorbed in the Pall Mall Gazette. Mr. Greenwood, it will be remembered, put the final touches to two great stories "left half told"—the "Dennis Duval" of Thackeray and the "Wiles and Daughters" of Mrs. Gaskell.

The British Museum will shortly become the possessor of Nelson's memorandum on the action of Trafalgar. This is the document which Frank Sabin purchased three years ago for \$18,000. An outcry arose from those who felt that it ought to belong to the British nation, and Mr. Sabin offered it to the museum at the price he had himself paid. The authorities were not able to find the money, and an Englishman, B. M. Woolton, bought the memorandum at the price mentioned, agreeing to leave it to the museum. His death brings the precious bit of paper to its final home.

Gilbert K. Chesterton, whose recent novel, "The Cross and the Switch," is delighting the epicures of literary unexpected favors, promises a new volume to be published under the title, "What Is Wrong?" The ball of the new novel is the dome of St. Paul's, the cross the religious emblem which surmounts. The two leading characters, a monk and Lucifer, arrive in an airship, and the old monk, fresh from his hermitage in the society of wild animals, is left clinging to the cross to find his way down the ball to look on at this wicked world and its various absurdities and conventions.

Left No Traces. Mr. Smith ordered chicken broth at the Fatted calf and after testing it he called the waiter and said: "Will you kindly tell me how you make this chicken soup?"

"Jes' take de bollin' hot watah and run de chicken fru, mistah."

"Well, Rastus, I think this chicken must have had its rubbers on."—Boston Courier.

On the Way. Reporter—Say, do you know what becomes of office boys who use such terrible language? Office Boy—Sure! Dey grows up ter be city editors.—Cleveland Leader.

We have noticed that one pretty sure way to make a girl change her mind is for her parents to agree with her.

About everything can now be found in cold storage except the bones, whose activity prevents it.

FASHION HINTS



Russian influence is strongly felt in some of the newest fashions, both for street and evening wear. The accompanying sketch shows a walking costume of cream serge, with trimmings of lavender and cream braid. It is very dainty and attractive, and is one of the many pretty things now made for southern wear.

TELLS OF HIS FAMOUS HYMN.

Faces of Street Audience Gave Minister Inspiration for "Life Line."

Surrounded by a model of a Lytle gun, a piece of cable, life buoys, megaphone, wig-wag flags, tailboards containing instructions to sailors and two life ropes, the Rev. E. S. Ufford, of Rockland, Me., evangelist and author of the famous revival hymn, "Throw Out the Life Line," sat placidly among these mementoes of fearful storms which have raged along the New England coast, in the Union station waiting for his train to Minneapolis, the Des Moines Register and Leader says.

The Rev. Mr. Ufford is an evangelist and this paraphernalia, which has been actually used in the rescue of sailors from wrecked vessels and was presented to him by captains of life saving stations at Cape Cod and Nantucket, is used by him in his evangelistic services to illustrate his sermons.

"I was a pastor in East Boston one Sunday night in 1884, and when we were returning home after the service the subject of conversation turned on evangelists and hymns. I began thinking about a hymn that would reach the people. My father and grandfather had been choir leaders before me and I had been praying that I should write a song that would live long after I had passed away. On the afternoon of that Sunday I went to the village square and spoke to non-church goers. As I looked upon the faces of those about me—faces upon which were written the story of sin—they seemed to be like perishing men in the billows of death. This must have suggested to me the inspiration for my version of the hymn. I returned to the parsonage, sat down and wrote the hymn at once.

"It has been often thought that I at one time must have been associated with seafaring men to give so vivid a picture as the lyric depicts, or that I had dashed off the stanzas after witnessing a wreck of some vessel. Neither surmise is correct. It is simply a mental picture which came to me a quarter of a century ago, vivid to be sure, but to which I added the color."

The Rev. Mr. Ufford is building a unique church by popular subscription and from the royalties received from his hymn. A large anchor is supported over the tower. The building is divided into two parts, an auditorium and a parlor. Over the rostrum is a painting by the noted artist, Charles C. Munnick, and represents Christ in the act of saving Peter from the waves. The frieze around the auditorium represents Columbus' caravels coming to America. The church is appropriately located at the corner of Water and Ocean streets in Rockland. His study is in the church tower overlooking the bay.

"My church will be known as the Temple of Galilee, or the People's church, and will always be open to people of all creeds."

In Extension. A little girl came running in from sliding one day and exclaimed to her mother: "Oh, mamma, did you see me go down? I went like thunder!"

To her mother's astonished question as to whom she had heard say that the little one replied, "Well, mamma, you know you said one day 'as quick as lightning,' and it always thunders after it lightens, doesn't it?"

A widow's plea of popularity is to have the men call her "irresistible."

Loaf is often called in many parts of New Zealand, but the chief mines are in the Westport district, in South Nelson; the Grey district, in Westland; in Otago and Auckland. The best coals occur in the two former, the Westport mines producing a quality scarcely equaled throughout the world.

The River Jordan. The historic river Jordan has its origin in one of the largest springs in the world.

With Others. There was a young person named Ted; Automobiles had gone to his head; Wreathed in gasoline smiles, He sped thousands of miles, And he'd probably scorch when he's dead.—Lillian Russell.

A Fact of Interest to Her. Stella—Know anything about the English budget? Bella—Yes; papa says he won't buy me a lord till he knows where they are at.