Eugene City Guard.

I. L. CAMPBELL, Proprietor.

EUGENE CITY..... OREGON.

Don't let a great smash in crockery surprise you, especially in China.

The Methodist conference having dodged the amusement question the members are also likely to dodge it.

The popularity of horse shows would indicate that the animal still stands so many hands high in popular estimation.

The Methodists do not approve of all kinds of amusement, but they appear to have had all kinds of amusement at the conference.

The remains of some gigantic but unknown creature of other days have been unearthed near Atlantic City, N. J. It may be the skeleton of the prehistoric mosquito.

Diamond thieves fed an ostrich $45,000 worth of gems while en route Europe. This is an insult to the pacity and facilities of that time-honored institution, the goat.

A murderer arraigned, tried, convicted and sentenced, all within one day, is the latest item in the fine annals of "Jersey justice." That is not necessarily "railroading." It is avoidance of "the law's delay" and administration of justice that, like the giving of alms, is twice as effective because it is done quickly.

It is the crowning honor of the Baroness Burdett-Coutts, who has recently celebrated her eighty-sixth birthday, that the world does not so much say how much money she inherited, or how much she is now worth, as how much she has given away for the good of her fellows. More than five million dollars is the record of her beneficence, and there are few that surpass it.

"One-fourth of the lawyers," said Governor Sha v, of Iowa, recently, "can try a case no better to-day than when they began." "There are also women who can cook no better than on the day they were married, and are told so three times a day." What commencement oration could better set forth, in co-educational terms, the common principle of failure? Not to advance, as Lord Bacon insisted long ago, is simply to go back.

Stock-raisers among our farmer readers may be interested in learning that, according to information sent to the State Department by the consul at Mainz, a simple preventive against the hoof and mouth disease, so fatal in its effects among cattle, is reported to have been discovered by a scientific investigator of the disease. It is said that if well-boiled milk, taken from the diseased cattle, be fed for a period of about eight days to those of the herd not yet affected, they will acquire complete immunity from the disease thereafter.

The recent postal frauds in Havana emphasize, by the law of contraries, the marvellous reach and honesty of the mail system throughout the world. An Ohio soldier, lately returned from the Philippines, displays a little jar of jam addressed to him in Manila. It received the postmarks of San Francisco, Honolulu, Guam and Manila; and then, after a brief pause, recontinued its long chase, Iloilo, Negros, Jolo and back to Manila; Hongkong, Yokahama, San Francisco again; and finally that of the Ohio village in which it was properly delivered. The journey occupied eight months, and cost 38 cents.

At the recent marriage of the crown prince of Japan, immense multitudes in the streets watched and applauded the bridal procession, but not a person looked out of an upper window. To the American eye and mind this seemed strange. But the Japanese explanation of it was simple. It is contrary to etiquette—indeed, to royalty—for a Japanese to look down, either literally o figuratively, upon a member of the royal family. One smiles at the quaint conceit that would interpret the visual angle as a slight. Yet there is much that is admirable and worthy of emulation in scrupulous regard for what are esteemed duty and honor.

In a little Western town, originally settled by Quakers, stands a church in which the practice of seating men and women apart still prevails. A few years ago, a newcomer mustered courage to cross the aisle and sit beside his bride. The second Sunday another man committed the same offense, and the third Sunday saw a generous sprinkling of bared heads alongside spring bonnets. The aged minister, with outraged sense of propriety, chose for his text: "Let destruction come upon him at unawares; and let his net that he hath hid catch himself," and minced no words in exposition. The men who had dared to stray from established custom rebelled at being eternally doomed for sitting beside their wives, and left the church in a body. The result is that to-day in that little town stand two church buildings, side by side, counterparts in size and paint and outlook; but in one the sexes are divided by a middle aisle, while in the other "promiscuous sitting" prevails. The trivialities which hinder Christian comity may travel far for an apter illustration.

The Journal of Education gives information as to the plan in vogue in Iowa for the transportation of rural children to school. The law permits the authorities of one township to contract with those of another for the instruction of children who live at an unreasonable distance from their schools. Where the saving of expense or increased advantage to the pupils may warrant it, arrangements may be made for the transportation of any children to and from the school. The plan is in operation on the largest scale in Winnebago county. There forty-nine children are conveyed from two and one-half to five and one-half miles, using four teams, at a cost of $25 a month. Since the plan was put in operation the county authorities have been able to dispense with four schoods saving $480 a year. The plan should be taken advantage of in more Iowa districts. There are now 233 school districts or sub-districts in Iowa, where schools are maintained for an average attendance of less than six pupils, while in 2,500 the average attendance is less than eleven. Such methods of instruction are wasteful when time and money could be saved by the transportation of pupils, and the larger classes, graded schools, and better class of teachers that could be secured would be of benefit to the pupils.

Samuel Rogers has verified the story of Ginevra, the beautiful bride of Francesco Doria, whose loveliness and pranks had been "the theme of every tongue." At the bridal feast the bride was wanting, nor was she to be found. Francesco threw his life away in battle with the Turk. The father lived long after, seeking always the blithe girl whose fate remained a mystery for fifty years, when, her family gone and the palace in the hands of strangers, a moldering chest was found in a gallery. On being moved, it fell apart, and there the skeleton of Ginevra revealed the tragic joke the bride had played in trying to make the bridegroom and th guests seek her in a secluded haunt. She knew not that the chest had a snap lock, and involuntarily made herself a prisoner unto death. Familiar as is the legend, it does not warn against the snap lock. Frequently the newspapers report fatal cases of fright or smothering from the snapping of locks on folding beds or on doors not openable on both sides. The most recent case, that of the wife of a well-known author, emphasizes the danger of the snap lock on railroad cars. Mrs. Hamlin Garland had to be removed through a window as the only means of escape after being imprisoned in a railroad car drawing room whose snap lock would not yield to key, spring or tool.

That the Indian is leaving his native trail for the "white man's path" is well evidenced by statistics gathered from the annual reports of the United States Indian agents. A greatly increasing number of Indians on the reservations, or what have lately been reservations, can read. Nearly a hundred thousand of them have completely adopted the white men's dress. Almost all of them have discarded the original dress of the people of their tribes. Eleven hundred dwelling houses were built by Indians last year, and the Indians on the reservation now possess more than twenty-five thousand dwelling houses. They are, as a rule, no longer nomadic, no longer dwellers in wigwams. Externally, at least, they are rapidly adopting the ways of civilization. Are they at the same time "becoming civilized" in the true sense? It is not possible to answer yes with confidence. They are learning to read, to live in houses, and to wear white men's clothes; yet unfortunately, in some cases at least, the vices of civilization seem likely to overpower some of the native virtues of the race., To civilize means to endow with the proper qualities of a citizen; and so far as the reading and house-dwelling Indian lacks these qualities, his transformation into the outward semblance of a white man fails in its chief purpose. The duty of the white people toward the Indian is far from being ended with imposing upon him the superficial marks of their civilization.

One of the most prolific fields of operation for wily swindlers has for many years been the "unclaimed estates" and the "estates in chancery" in England, advertisements of which are continually appearing in the American newspapers. These advertisements are skillfully worded and bring to the schemers thousands of letters from people who are already possessed of a little money and have a natural desire to possess much more. From the great list of applicants for information the swindlers select a few—of those who they have reason, after investigation, to believe will fall most readily into the trap and prove the best plucking. The cupidity of the victims is aroused and then comes the process of obtaining from them sums of money, constantly increasing in size, for the pretended purpose of pushing the claims developing evidence, proving lineage, etc. Hundreds of confiding Americans have been trapped, and, from the number of such advertisements as are still appearing, we should judge that the supply of gudgeons was yet far from being exhausted. The whole thing is a fraud and a barefaced swindle, and the State Department of the United States Government has sent out a warning against all such advertisements and announcements. There are no great unclaimed estates in England, and the few dormant funds are small, averaging not more than $1,800 each. Over 1,000 claims have been referred by the United States embassy at London to a firm of solicitors, and of not a single one has any validity whatever been proven. Don't be a gudgeon!

Gold-Beating.

Gold beaters, by hammering, can reduce gold leaves so thin that 282,000 must be laid upon each other to produce the thickness of an inch, yet each leaf is so perfect and free from holes that one of them laid upon any surface, as in gilding, gives the appearance of solid gold. They are so thin that if formed into a book 1,500 would only occupy the space of a single leaf of common paper; and an octano volume of an inch thick would have as many pages as the books of a well-stocked library of 1,500 volumes, with 400 pages in each.

Opposed to Walking.

Most Chinese mandarins pass the whole of their lives without taking a single yard of exercise. The late Nanking Viceroy (father of the Marquis Tseng) was considered a remarkable character because he always walked 1,000 steps a day in his private garden. Under no circumstances whatever is a mandarin ever seen on foot in his own jurisdiction.

Where British Recruiting Is Done.

One-third of the recruits of the British army enlist in London and Dublin.

Wise is the man who acts as if he expected to live a hundred years, but is prepared to shuffle off to-morrow.

A man who cannot tell a story pretty well should not attempt it.

THE RABBIT INDUSTRY.

Raising Bunny on a Large Scale for the Market.

The rabbit fanciers of this country are now taking up the idea of raising bunny on a large scale for market purposes. Many of those interested in the project and who have experimented with blooded horses, dogs and poultry, believe that more money can be made with less trouble from rabbits than from any other animal bred for pleas-

ure and profit. The particular breed desired is known as the Belgian hare. Some of these specimens have been imported by Americans at a cost approximating $1,000 each.

RABBITRY AT BOUNDBROOK, N. J.

Most persons in this country have not been educated to an appreciation of rabbit meat, although in European countries it is a common article of diet. The flesh of the Belgian hare is different from that of the ordinary rabbit in appearance and taste, and it is asserted that every one who eats it once acquires a permanent liking for it. It resembles frogs' legs, chicken or lamb, according to its age and the method of preparing it. The manner of killing the hare for the market is important. They are likely to be shy, and are so strong and active that in jumping about to escape their captor they strike the sides of the pen so forcibly as to bruise the flesh severely. They must be handled gently, care being taken not to startle them upon near approach. One of the most attractive features of the hare-breeding industry is the economy with which it can be undertaken and carried on. A rabbitry is a simple affair, consisting simply of a log shed. The fronts are of wire netting, with waterproof paper shades that may be let down in bad weather. The floor is of earth, but at a depth of several inches a wire netting is laid to prevent the rabbits from burrowing out.

For some reason Los Angeles, Cal., up to the present time has been the center of the Belgian hare-raising industry. One company there has about $200,000 invested in a rabbit farm and sells no animal for less than $100, and most of them for a large price.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S COSTLY HAT.

Made of Tortoise Shell by Natives of the Navigator Islands.

Her majesty, Queen Victoria, who is the dowdiest royal personage in Europe, has in her posseslon the most expensive bonnet in the world. It is not a triumph of the milliner's art, and it is not likely to be the mode. In fact, the Queen has never worn it. It is not one through which a hatpin is easily thrust, and—oh, prime reason that its case is hopeless!—it is unbecoming.

The natives of the Navigator Islands were most anxious to make the Queen a present. There was formed a committee, which debated long and patiently what would be most appropriate. Jewels were out of the question. It would cost a fortune to give one of the richest sovereigns in the world a jewel that she would appreciate. Even the most gorgeous cloths were not advisable. India had excelled them in weaving.

The gift should be suggestive of their part of the world and made by their people. But what?—that was the question. Their women were skilled in plaiting grass and making it into everything from furniture, matting, and mural decorations to gowns and hats, but this would not be valuable enough. Aside from the thoughtfulness of the gift, it must have some intrinsic worth.

The committee disagreed. One gentleman resigned in despair. The new member injected some ginger into the crowd and revived their lagging spirits. The new member said emphatically that even a Queen had vanity enough to want to possess the most expensive bonnet in the world. One of their own tortoise shells should be made into a bonnet. It should be carved by their own people, and while it would not cost them very dearly, Victoria would find it quite expensive if she went shopping for it in Bond street. The tired members of the committee voted the new member a knowing one, and if they did not promise him a monument it is because that form of greatness is unknown in Samoa.

An elaborate bonnet was made of a whole shell. The workmanship was exquisite. Never was tortoise shell more artistically carved. The shape is like that of the Salvation Army lassies. In due time the Queen received the gift, and wrote the committee a note of thanks. The Queen found the material, as well as the shape, a little impractical as far as everyday wear goes, so she sent it to the British museum. But the committee, which feels that a load is off its mind, draws mental pictures of Qeen Victoria driving down "The Lady's Mile" and nodding to her faithful subjects and wearing the gift that caused so many wrinkles in the gray matter of its brain.

The Saber-Toothed Cat.

The most remarkable of all the extinct feline animals are those known to naturalists as the saber-toothed cats or tigers, a group comprising the greater part of all the fossil forms. They date back to the earliest times of which we know anything about the family in North America and reach down to the time of man himself. A large and powerful species described from the Indian territory by Cope lived contemporaneously with the hairy mammoth, as evidenced by the commingling of their skeletons. There can be little or no question but that the hairy mammoth was contemporaneous with man in North America as well as in Europe. Their geological range is from the close of the Eocene to the later part of the Pleistocene.

The chief peculiarities of the animal are the extraordinarily elongated canine teeth. The tail is of unusual length and the legs are short. The animal measured about seven feet in length aside from the tail. The lower jaws have a downward projection in front, due to a flange-like widening of the jawbones, which doubtless served as a protection to the teeth, preventing their injury or loss. In some of the larger forms from South America this flange was not present, while the canine teeth were even more elongated than is the case with this species, attaining a length of over six inches and protruding far below the jaws when closed.—Popular Science Monthly.

GIRLHOOD OF YESTERDAY.

Propensities that the Twentieth Century Maiden Might Well Revive.

"Arabella is safely shut away in an old daguerrotype, and there is nothing left to her memory but a few dead rose-leaves and the fading dreams in the hearts of the old. But we would offer to her memory a tribute of praise for certain 'sweet endearing young charms' which are almost lost arts at the threshold of the 20th century," writes Carrie E. Garret in the Woman's Home Companion.

"True, Arabella was a pale, faint star in the brilliant light of the New Girl, and yet, looking into that old daguerreotype (in just the right line of vision), one sees some sweet, old-fashioned propensities which have been banished to the cobwebs and dust of age, but which even the proud New Girl would do well to adopt.

"If it is old-fashioned to be modest, then it is a grand, good old fashion, and we need to dig up out of the past and give it a genuine 19th century 'boom.' Old-fashioned gowns, old songs, old plays, are born again after years of burial, and delight new generations. Happy if some old-fashioned virtues long abandoned and forgotten might be resurrected and become the rage! Is there anything so refreshing (and so rare) in this weary world as a sweet, unaffected, modest youth? After the cheap jests and shrugs and mannerisms of society, a pure, frank, unspoiled manner is like sunshine on the waters of a brook after the yellow glare of gaslight. Arabella was wont to sit in a state of sweet receptivity and absorb the eloquence of man, which, though perhaps inglorious, was at least restful. Therefore, she had that pearl of all manners—repose. The New Girl, on the contrary, is all the time making a palpable effort to sustain her reputation for brilliancy. Now, the conscious effort to be continuously witty and entertaining may be as trying to the nerves as those deadly pauses which occur between ideas (and which unquestionably occurred pretty frequently between the ideas of our lost Arabella). The girl who is determined at all hazards to fill up silence, and takes that task wholly upon herself, is sure to become exhausted and exhausing. Isn't the New Girl, by demonstrating her power to do anything, in danger of having everything thrust upon her?"

He Was a Pusher.

A physiognomist would have said after a glance at the young man with the pink eyebrows that he was one to push himself forward at every opportunity, and proof would have been at hand to corroborate the diagnosis. A lady who boarded the Metropolitan car found every seat taken, and the young man was the first to offer her his. As she bowed her acknowledgments he looked more closely at her and queried:

"Aren't you Mrs. Bluefields?"

"Yes, sir," was the reply.

"Hubsand has an office on F street?"

"Yes."

"I thought so. I am one of the clerical force in his office, you know."

"Well."

"Oh, that's all. One of the clerical force, you know, and if it comes handy you might tell your husband that I gave up my seat to you. Everything goes when a fellow is looking for a step up and a raise of salary."—Washington Post.

The woman who is compelled to do her own work is lucky; it is easier for a woman to do her own work than it is to fuss with a hired girl.

All time is the proper time for a man to mind his own business.

GREAT AMERICAN EYE-OPENER

Coffee the Favorite Stimulant in the United States.

The acquisition of a considerable area of coffee-growing territory as a result of the Spanish-American war gives more than ordinary interest to the statistics of coffee consumption in this country. The American people have become, without question, the greatest coffee drinkers in the world. We are not only consuming more coffee than any other nation each year, but statistics show that the amount consumed per capita each year is constantly on the increase. It has become by far the most important item in the American dietary and its consumption is not confined to any class. It is the sustaining solace of the wage-earner and the favorite stimulant of the man whose work calls for a high degree of mental energy.

Following are the figures which show the importations of coffee in pounds in the years named, with the population of the country for the same years:

	Pounds.	Population
1874	285,000,000	42,000,000
1880	446,000,000	50,000,000
1890	499,000,000	60,000,000
1892	640,000,000	65,000,000
1893	563,000,000	67,000,000
1897	809,000,000	72,000,000
1898	804,000,000	74,000,000
1899	878,000,000	76,000,000

The countries that consume the greatest portion of the world's coffee crop are Holland, Belgium, Switzerland, the United States and Germany. It is claimed, however, that the popularity of tea, so great in England and Russia, is now on the decline and their consumption of coffee is increasing at such a rapid rate that they will soon rank with Germany and the United States as coffee drinkers.

Hygienic and dietetic authorities will doubtless view this increase in the consumption of coffee with much apprehension. They stoutly maintain that coffee drinking is injurious to the race. They trace all sorts of digestive derangements to the excessive drinking of coffee. Other authorities, however, are disposed to regard this increase in coffee drinking as a hopeful indication of an increasing tendency to abstain from alcoholic stimulation. Indeed, there are many who adhere to the belief that coffee is a specific for alcoholism, and that any marked increase in its consumption means a decline in the use of spirituous liquors. It is noted in this connection that Germany, the most extensive consumer of malt liquors, is next to the United States the greatest consumer of coffee. Whatever diverse views may be entertained regarding the hygienic or food value of coffee, there is no denying the fact that it appears to be essential to meet the dietetic requirements of modern American methods of living.—Chicago Times-Herald.

THE BOXERS.

Described by a Man Who Recently Returned from China.

Clarence Carey, a member of the University Club, who returned from China a few months ago, explained last night what the Boxers were in China and told of their origin.

"The Boxers," said he, "originated in the Shang Tung province, in which the Germans claim the sphere of influence. They began among villagers who were allowed by the local Chinese governors to carry arms to put down robber bands in their particular neighborhoods. Gradually they became possessed with the idea of turning robbers themselves and they gathered in all of the malcontents and the many who were out of work on account of the great drought last winter. When they became possessed of considerable strength in numbers they went west to Pao-Ting Fu, the terminus of the Lu Han Railroad, about sixty miles from Pekin. There they murdered an English missionary named Brooks. They advanced along the line of the railroad, tearing up tracks and burning stations, until they reached the main line, Feng Ti, which they also tore up and destroyed in sections.

"The name is an arbitrary one, given to them doubtless by some English-speaking person who got it from their Chinese name—I Ho Tuan. This being interpreted means faith, righteousness and the two fists. I suppose we would call it the 'Good Right Arm' Society or something like that. They are doubtless taking in all of the old secret societies and all of the lawless and discontented ones. They have only been in existence for a year and no one knows much more than this about them."—New York Sun.

Mexican Criminal Laws.

They have some very curious criminal laws in Mexico. For instance, it is twice as much of an offense to mutilate the face of a woman as that of a man. The law seems to be based on the idea that a woman's best possession is her beauty, and that to mar it does her a great injury. There is another curious law. If a person should be wounded in an encounter the punishment to the offender is fixed by the number of days his victim has to stay in the hospital or under a doctor's care. A line is fixed at forty days in the way of a general division. If the injured man occupies more than forty days in his recovery the penalty doubles up.

Dead Game.

"Is foot-ball a game?" asked the foreigner.

"Dunno," was the reply, "but footballers are. When a man breaks both his legs and dislocates his spine and then won't go off the field until the play is over you bet he's game. Yes, sir."—Pick-Me-Up.

Parole System for the Insane.

A parole system is in use at the hospital for the insane in Nebraska, under which those mildly afflicted are placed in the custody of their friends for ninety days before being finally discharged.

Shore Lines of the Great Lakes.

The United States shore lines of the great lakes are as follows: Ontario, 230 miles; Erie, 370 miles; Huron, 510 miles; Superior, 955 miles; Michigan, 1,320 miles.

No Canning in China.

There is no canning industry among the Chinese. All of their sauces and compotes are preserved in earthenware jars, or in old wine and beer bottles.

It is pitiful to see any one cry, except a silly woman who cries for effect.

Science and Invention

Monsieur Dussard, a French inventor, has combined a phonograph with a telephone in such a manner that a message spoken into the telephone is impressed upon a wax register at the receiving end, in case the person to whom it is addressed happens to be absent. The registered message can at any time be turned into speech by setting the phonograph in operation. A similar device has been employed in Germany by another inventor, Herr Poulsen.

In Paris experiments are being made with electric automobile fore-wagons which can be attached, somewhat after the manner of a locomotive, to carriages otherwise drawn by horses. The fore-wagons are so arranged that when hitched to a carriage all the mechanism required to manage them is directly under the hand of the driver, as in an ordinary automobile vehicle. The method of attachment is such that the fore-wagon can be removed, and horses substituted in its place without difficulty.

Some curious spiral fossils, recently discovered in rocks of the Permian period in Russia, appear to represent a kind of saw-like appendage, armed with enameled teeth, and capable of being rolled up in the manner of a spiral spring, which once belonged to a species of fish related to the rays and dogfish of to-day. A French geologist, Mons. Priem, suggests that the fish carried this singular weapon as an extension of its upper jaw. Except in its capability of being rolled up, such an appendage seems to be no more wonderful than that of the sawfish or the swordfish.

From the study of clouds Prof. F. H. Bigelow of the United States weather bureau concludes that the ordinary cyclones which traverse our country from west to east are not more than two or three miles in depth, although their diameter is many hundreds of miles. In other words, their motion does not affect the upper regions of the atmosphere. In the case of hurricanes Prof. Bigelow finds that the depth is greater, amounting to as much as five or six miles. But the higher currents blow directly across the cyclonic and anticyclonic areas which produce storms and fair weather at the surface of the earth. Some of Prof. Bigelow's conclusions upset former ideas concerning the circulation of the atmosphere.

Although the inhabitants of the earth are not perceptibly affected by the wandering motion of the north pole, yet it is a phenomenon of unceasing interest to astronomers, and on Jan. 1 a new plan for investigating it went into effect. The motion, which is suggestive of the wabbling of a top, is extremely slight when the vast size of the earth is taken into account. Since 1890 the north pole has never been more than 35 feet away from the place it should occupy if the earth's axis of revolution never varied in direction. But the new plan of observation was formed by the International Geodetic Association. It provides four observing stations, all close to the 39th degree of north latitude, and all within 500 feet of the same parallel. These are at Midzuswa, Japan; Carloforte, Sardinia; Gaithersburg, Maryland; and Ukiah, California. Precisely similar observations with exactly the same kind of zenith telescopes will be made at each station on carefully selected stars. Any change in the direction of the pole reveals itself by a shift of the stars.

TWO COMMON NAUTICAL TERMS

Probable Origin of the Phrases "Starboard" and "Larboard."

The origin of the words "starboard" and "larboard," as used in the nautical vocabulary, has been attributed to the Italian words questa borda, meaning "this side," and quells borda, "that side." Abbreviated, these two phrases appear as sta borda and la borda, and by corruption of languages were soon rendered "starboard" and "larboard" by British sailors. These two words sound so much alike that frequent errors and accidents occurred, and years ago, therefore, the use of "larboard" was discontinued and "port" was substituted.

A correspondent of this journal has made the point that the former term has been in use in the English language from a remote period, occurring in Anglo-Saxon as "stearboard," and in middle English as "stereboard," while in later times it was written "sterboard," from which it developed into its modern form, "starboard." It originally meant, so our correspondent says, the board, or side, of the ship on which the man who steered it was placed. It may be called a native English word as distinguished from one of imported origin, and it possesses a special interest in its indication of the method of propelling and steering in vogue from very early times. The ancient mariner could run before the wind with his single square sail, but he could deviate only a few points on either side. Unless, therefore, the direction of the wind agreed with the course of the vessel, it was necessary for him to be in constant readiness to modify his direction by the help of the oar. The illustrations of early English manuscripts and the later figures of tapestries exemplified the old square rig, with auxiliary oars and steering from the side. In these examples one or more heavy oars are used at the bow and on one side only; while the course is kept by the steersman, with a lighter, and often paddle-shaped, oar, worked near the stern and invariably on the starboard side of the ship. This method of rowing survived until recent times, and was well shown on the coal "keels," which added so picturesque a feature to the navigation of the River Tyne. These vessels were managed by crews consisting of three men and a boy; they had a single square sail, and carried some twenty odd tons of coal. When unable to run before the wind resort was had to rowing, and this was done by a single heavy bow oar, worked on the port side by two men and a boy, while the skipper kept the course, rowing in time with a lighter oar, called a "swape," from the stern on the starboard side. The fixed rudder, hinged from the sternpost and operated by a tiller, is a later development in ship construction. The Tyne "keel" exemplifies earlier practice of our ancestors in steering by an oar from the right side of the ship, and from this comes the designation for that side as the "right side," or starboard.—Cassier's Magazine.

ROMANCE OF MARY BALL.

A Virginia Maid Who Gained a Husband by Her Skill in Nursing.

Mary Ball, who afterward became the mother of Washington, was born early in the eighteenth century, her parents having emigrated to this country from England only a few years previously. Her girlhood was not materially different from that of the average pioneer child in the wilderness. Her spinning and the other arts which she learned were such as were acquired also by her playmates. The romance of Miss Ball to Augustine Washington attracted not a little attention in the country-side, for two reasons—the youth of the bride and the fact that the groom was a widower. In those days marriages were usually contracted early, the girls were mere children, and a bride of twenty-four was [illegible] looked upon as an exception to [illegible]. The engagement of Mary and Augustine was of short duration, and the spring wedding which followed was one of the events of the year in Virginia social life. There was no bridal tour, but instead the young couple journeyed to the estate of the bride's groom, which enjoyed the distinction of being the largest plantation in Westmoreland County. It is only fair, of course, to presume that the bride was beautiful, but we have also the authority for it of an old letter, the writer of which designates her as the "prettiest maiden" she knows, and grows enthusiastic in expressions of admiration for her flaxen hair, blue eyes, and cheeks "like May blossoms." Not [illegible] the love story of the Virginia maiden devoid of the always-desired thing, romance, for tradition has it that the dashing Augustine gained a realization of her charms as she nursed him back to health after he had been seriously injured by the upsetting of his carriage before the home of his future bride. The friendship inaugurated on this interesting occasion speedily ripened into mutual love. Bereaved of her husband when George was but eleven years of age, and with four younger children to be cared for, she discharged the responsibilities thus sadly devolved upon her with scrupulous fidelity and [illegible]ness.—Woman's Home Companion.

QUEER COLONY IN PARAGUAY.

Rules Which Govern a Settlement of Australians in South America.

One of the strangest colonies in the world is probably that of Cosme, located in Paraguay by colonists of English blood from Australia.

The property of the colonists is held in common and all their work is done in common—cultivating land, housekeeping—but each family occupy a house by itself. There is no currency but labor, and every colonist is to give the colony thirty-six hours a week. If he works longer he establishes a labor credit which he can draw on at any time. Only teetotalers are accepted as colonists.

A single man may put in extra time to provide himself with a house for marriage. If labor to his credit is sufficient the colony will allow him an overdraft to a certain amount. He may have as large a house as he chooses though he would be considered foolish to have a larger possession than his needs.

Having paid for his house, he may draw upon his surplus labor for anything else he requires, or he can use his leisure for cultivating his garden or any other private purpose. When a house has been built by the surplus labor he cannot, however, sell it, but only his to occupy.

Cosme does not want single women, though single women would like to come, being scarce, as in most communities. The women are occupied with knitting, sewing, washing and other womanly occupations, but when a woman is married the colony has no more claim upon her. She has to do all that the community requires in managing her house and attending to her children. Men are married at twenty-one at 18. There is no religious test, but the community lives on the Ten Commandments and on its own simple principles.—New York World.

Some Matrmonial Facts.

Widowers are more inclined to marry than bachelors. Widows are more inclined to marry than spinsters. These facts are eloquent in favor of the comparative advantages of matrimony. For one bachelor that married between the ages of fifty and fifty-five there are two widowers remarry between those years. These are marriages out of equal numbers of each class; the actual number of bachelors married will be found only in proportion as they stand to seven to one the actual number of widowers living at these ages.

Under the same conditions the spinster married between the ages of sixty-five two widows are married. Inasmuch as the total number of spinsters far exceeds that of widows the figures given refer to marriages of equal numbers, this disparity is so noticeable; its existence, however, is beyond dispute.

Similarly, out of an equal number of widowers and bachelors between forty-five and thirty years of age twice as many widowers remarry for every one of bachelors who enter the bonds of matrimony for the first time.—The Bachelor.

The Germ of Bad Manners.

"Independence is a trait of the Americans," said a girl student the other day. "To think that I am as good as every one else puts a great confidence into me."

"That same reflection, I am as good as every one else,' is at the root of a great deal of our proverbial bad manners,' was the reply. "Would it be better to think 'every one else is as good as I am?'" It certainly is commendable trait to be self-reliant, as material affairs are concerned, but there is an equality of worth recognized in others which [illegible] obligations to self.—Woman's Home Companion.