At Culross Abbey in Fife, Scotland, a tombstone has been found which is believed to date from the fourth century of the Christian era.

The London Graphic suggests that the British educational authorities set up phonographs, with a "standard accent" in all the schools of the empire.

Sometimes It Does.

Teacher—Tommy, do you know what an epic is?

Tommy Tucker—Yes'm. It's something you take that makes you sick to your stummick.

No Chance.

"Does your husband indulge in games of chance?"

"No, indeed."

"But I thought he played the races?"

"So he does."

"But that's a game of chance."

"Not with him."—Houston Post.

"King Edward the Shrewd" or "the Wise" is, according to a Paris correspondent, the title a near posterity will give to England's ruler.

No Answer Required.

Tommy—Paw!

Mr. Tucker—What's the trouble now, my son?

Tommy—Why is it that the magazines don't make their readin' matter as interesting as they do their adv'tising pages?

Then They Clinched.

Floorwalker—I'd be ashamed to let my trousers bag as yours do. You ought to have them creased once in a while.

Bookkeeper—If my shins were as sharp as yours I wouldn't have any more trouble in keeping my trousers creased than you do.—Chicago Tribune.

With Apologies.

"Where are you going, my pretty maid?"
"I'm going a-skating, kind sir," she said.
"May I skate with you, my pretty maid?"
"You're too high a roller, kind sir," she said.

Uncle Allen.

"'A man may smile and smile, and be a villain still,' quoted Uncle Allen Sparks; "but I've known crooked men that could keep their faces just as straight as anybody else."

Determined Optimism.

"Grandfather, how have you managed to retain your hopefulness and your faith in human nature?"

"My dear, I avoid modern fiction, never go to see a society drama, and read nothing in the newspapers that has a display head over it."—

The Practical Result.

"The Spendits are certainly a very extravagant couple. What is their income?"

"They haven't any. It's all outgo."—Baltimore American.

Self-Made Theories.

"It is the nature of women to be a delusion to men," growled the old cynic.

"Yes," merrily replied the young enthusiast, "and it is the nature of men to hug their delusions."—Baltimore American.

IS GUEST OF ASTORIA

Vice President Given a Rousing Welcome in City by Sea.

DISPELS THE "ICEBERG" STORY

Whole City Turns Out to Greet Him —Warship Adds Official Salute Banquet at Seaside.

Astoria, Or., July 16.—Nineteen times the boom of the guns of the cruiser Charleston broke the stillness of the air at noon yesterday announcing the arrival of the train bearing Vice President Fairbanks, who was Astoria's honored guest. As the vice president stepped from the train the cruiser's band played a martial air, the blue coated marines brought their guns to present arms and the crowd broke into cheers while dozens of whistles on steamers, mills and canneries joined in harsh but loud acclaim.

Shortly after 4 o'clock the procession formed and headed by a platoon of police, the Charleston's band and the cruiser's full complement of marines and bluejackets and followed by the vice president and the other guests of the city in automobiles proceeded to the VanDusen field, where Mr. Fairbanks addressed a crowd of several thousand people who had gathered to hear him.

Mayor Wise welcomed the distinguished visitor in a few well chosen words and then Senator Fulton in his usual happy manner introduced the guest of the day. Mr. Fairbanks' speech was purely of an impromptu nature, but he is a pleasing talker and his numerous witticisms and local hits soon aroused the enthusiasm of the audience and dispelled the idea that he is an "iceberg," as so often depicted. He spoke of the great and unequaled prosperity of the country, of the wonderful opportunities to be found in the West, and prophesied that the prosperity of America as a nation was but just beginning.

Following Mr. Fairbanks, short speeches were made by Governor Chamberlain, Senator Mulkey and Congressman Ellis, when an informal reception was held and the public was given an opportunity of making the personal acquaintance of their distinguished guest.

At 6:30 in the evening a special train bearing Vice President Fairbanks and party left for Seaside where a banquet was held.

BRAVE SOLDIERS BURNED.

Terrible Powder Explosion on Battleseip Georgia.

Boston, July 16.—With six of her officers and crew dead and 14 others either dying or suffering from terrible burns received in an explosion of powder in the after superimposed turret, the battleship Georgia steamed slowly up Boston harbor from the target practice grounds in Cape Cod bay late yesterday and landed the dead and injured men at the Charleston navy yard.

With the arrival of the Georgia there became known the details of the most terrible naval accident that has ever taken place along the coast of New England. The accident ocurred shortly before noon yesterday while the Georgia's crew was at target practice off Barnstable in Cape Cod bay. In some manner as yet unexplained two bags of powder became ignited and in the terrible flash that followed the entire turret crew, consisting of three officers and 18 men, was engulfed in fire and received horrible burns, one officers and five men dying before the ship reached port and another before midnight.

The explosion occurred in the after superimposed turret, but the men, under command of Lieutenant Caspar Goodrich, son of Rear Adimral Goodrich, commandant of the New York navy yard, and Midshipmen Faulkner Goldthwaite and James T. Cruse, were operating the eight inch guns.

Jailed for Contempt.

San Francisco, July 16.—The first serious blow to the bribery graft prosecution was struck by the Louis Glass defense in open court yesterday through Emile J. Zimmer, second vice president and director of the Pacific States Telephone & Telegraph company, who first refused to be sworn afterward accepted the oath, answered two or three questions, then refusedto testify further. He was, by Judge Lawler, committed for contempt to the county jail "for a term of five days and until the question is answered."

Floods in Germany.

Berlin, July 16.—From six to eight inches of rain have fallen throughout the greater part of Germany during the last three days, and as a result a number of rivers have overflowed their banks, carrying death and destruction in the surrounding country. No less than a dozen minor railroad accidents from washouts have been reported and dispatches coming in from the country traversed by the swollen streams relate the destruction of crops, dwelling houses and outbuildings. The floods are severest in Western Germany.

Passenger Trains Crash.

Leavenworth, Kan., July 16.—A Chicago Great Western passenger train, running over the Kansas City Northwestern tracks, is reported to have run into a Burlington train at Bethel, between here and Kansas City, at 1 o'clock this morning, wrecking the sleeper and killing and injuring several passengers. The injured are to be taken to Kansas City for treatment. A wrecking train is now on its way from Kansas City to the scene.

Try to Blow Up Leishman.

Constantinople, July 16.—A bomb exploded last night in front of the summer quarters of the American embassy at Yeni Keui, a suburb of this city. Four persons were slightly injured. Otherwise no damage as done. The authors of the outrage have not been traced.

JAPAN READY FOR WAR.

Would Attack United States on South With Big Army.

Mexico City, July 15.—Nine thousand veteran Japanese soldiers are now in Northwestern Mexico. They are stationed at points in the states of Sonora, Sinoloa and Chihuahua. Each group is commanded by skilled commanders, who saw service in the Russo-Japanese war. Thirty thousand Japanese, the vast majority of whom are veterans of the Russian campaigns, are in the southwestern section of the United States and Lower California. Three Japanese generals who held high rank in the Russo-Japanese war have been in Mexico for three months. They dress like Mexican rancheros and are ostensibly buying land.

The Trans-Oceanic Immigration company, whose vice president is T. Hinata, a member of the Japanese parliament, is subsidized by the Japanese government to bring Japanese soldiers to Mexico. They have been coming into Mexico at the rate of 800 per month, landing at Salina Cruz, Manzanillo and other Pacific ports.

In case of war, the plan is for the Japanese fleet to sail up the Gulf of California, capture the port of Guaymas, and use the state of Sonora as a base of operations in a campaign against the United States. This plan will practically duplicate the operations against Russia, in which Japan seized Corea at the outbreak of the Russo-Japanese war.

Japan, in her war against the United States, will despoil Mexican territory, which has no navy, just as she did that of Corea in the war with Russia.

Foreign diplomats here, and especially those of Europe, are watching the developments with interest and astonishment because of the inadequate American secret service officials, who seem not to be thoroughly informed of Japan's operations in Mexico.

This story is absolutely correct in every detail.

TIRED OF BEING GOVERNOR

Judge Wickersham Creates Sensation by Speech on Alaska.

Seattle, Wash., July 15.— Federal Judge James Wickersham, of Alaska, speaking before the State Bar association, created a sensation by declaring that he was tired of acting as the government of Alaska, and that the bar of the state must whip the congressional delegation into line to grant some power to the people of Alaska.

His speech overshadowed that of Vice President Fairbanks in importance, for he insisted that the only authority of any kind in Alaska is that of the judiciary and the governor is a mere figurehead with only authority to appoint a private secretary and notaries public.

He denounced Seattle for quietly enjoying a $20,000,000 annual trade with Alaska and refusing to aid Alaskans in getting a system of government.

The Bar association banquet lasted until 1 a. m., Mr. Fairbanks, Governor Mead, Congressman Humphreys, Senator Piles and others speaking in response to toasts.

FREIGHT CAR POOL BREAKS.

Big Roads Abandon Project Which Does Not Succeed.

Chicago, July 15.—The American railway clearing house, which for eight months has been trying to perfect a pool of all freight cars in the country, is in process of disintegration, according to the Inter-Ocean. The Chicago & Alton railroad, which was one of the strongest advocates of the car pooling scheme at the outset, will withdraw. The Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Faul railroad has already withdrawn, and many of the big roads in the East and West have determined to abandon the project.

The organization has failed in its prime object, to insure each road having on its own rails all the time the number of cars owned by it. It has failed to do this because it had no power to penalize the roads for disobeying the mandates, beyond the imposition of the established rate of rental per diem.

Schmitz' Appeal Is Sham.

San Francisco, July 15. — Mayor Schmitz suffered another defeat this morning when his application to compel Judge Dunne to set a date for settling the bills of exceptions in the case in which he was convicted of extortion was not granted. C. W. Cobb, representing the prosecution, declared that the petition was a sham and a pretense. The petition charges that Judge Dunne was biased, and that he is purposely hindering the perfection of the appeal in order to keep Schmitz in the county jail.

Panic Threatens All Japan.

ictoria, B. C., July 15.—A financial depression was being severely felt when the steamer Tartar, which arrived today, left Yokohoma June 29. A meeting of the managers of eight of the most prominent banks of Japan was held shortly before the Tartar sailed, for the purpose of devising means to check the depression. The government has redeemed treasury bills, recognized nationalized railway shares as negotiable securities and paid proximate interest on these, but the banks considered a more drastic course.

Good Will Towards Koreans

The Hague, July 15.—It was officially stated today that Joseph H. Choate, speaking to the Corean delegates at The Hague yesterday, merely said that America had always felt good will toward Koreans, but he manifested no opinion about the present condition of that country, and only expressed the belief that no action can be taken here, adding that if the Coreans desire to make representations to the United States it must be to the government.

Europe Has Summer Shivers.

Berlin, July 15.—Unseasonable cold prevails throughout Middle Europe. Temperatures as low as 41 degrees have been reported in Southern Bavaria, and it is reported that snow is falling in the Vosges mountains.

College Days.

There was once a Yale sophomore who, as many college men do, found himself in financial straits and pawned all his good clothes. A little before Thanksgiving he got a big check from home.

When he got home for the holidays the first thing his mother took out of the trunk was an overcoat and on it was pinned the pawnbroker's ticket he had forgotten to remove.

Hastily grabbing the ticket, he said: "Hello! They must have forgotten to take this off at the Smith dance when I left it in the cloakroom."

A moment later his mother took out his evening trousers. They also had a ticket on them.

"Why, Reginald," she said, "surely you didn't leave these in the cloak room, too, did you?"—Lippincott's.

Vacuum and Insulation.

The remarkable heat-insulating effects of a vacuum is strikingly brought out in the claims made for a new sportsmen's bottle. The vessel has double walls, being really one bottle within another, with a sealed-up intervening space from which the air has been withdrawn. It is asserted that liquids in this bottle can be kept hot forty-eight hours in the coldest weather, and that iced beverages will retain their delicious coolness for weeks in the hottest summer.

Going Too Far.

"Look here," exclaimed the leading man, as he entered the green room; "when I kissed you in the third act some of the coloring came off your cheeks and got on my face.'

"You villain!" snapped the irate leading lady.

"Oh, that's all right, madam. I don't mind being a villain, but I don't want to be a deep-dyed villain."

How Marbles Are Made.

Most of the stone marbles used by boys are made in Germany. The refuse only of the marble and agate quarries is employed, and this is treated in such a way that there is practically no waste.

Men and boys are employed to break the refuse stone into small cubes, and with their hammers they acquire a marvelous dexterity. The little cubes are then thrown into a mill consisting of a grooved bedstone and a revolving runner. Water is fed to the mill and the runner is rapidly revolved, while the friction does the rest.

In half an hour the mill is stopped and a bushel or so of perfectly rounded marbles are taken out. The whole process costs the merest trifle.—Philadelphia Record.

Charged Up to Him.

The proprietor of the celebrated mountain inn was showing the new guest the beautiful surroundings.

"Ah, these cliffs?" said the proprietor, rapturously. "In an electrical storm they are awe-inspiring. The next time a storm rises see that you are standing on the porch of the inn. Why, sir, the air is always heavily charged."

"I don't doubt it," laughed the new guest, winking at another late arrival, "and if I don't happen to be standing on the porch I can feel assured that it will be heavily charged anyway—on my bill."

Irrepressible.

"He would joke at the grave's brink."

"What causes you to believe that?"

"Why, he is a boarder and he jokes about prunes."—Houston Post.

No Secret.

"Do tell me, Mrs. Mannidge, how you succeed in keeping your hired help so long."

"By letting them merely help. I really do the work, you know."

Hotels Among the Pyramids.

The Egyptian pyramids will probably lose much of their magnificent and legendary appearance in the near future. The Egyptian government has given permission for the erection of homes and hotels in the vast plain stretching from Eskebich to the Nile and covered with the ancient sphinxes and structures. Already several societies have been formed to avail themselves of the picturesque view for the building of large hotels. All around the pyramids of Ghiseh there are to be erected real American skyscrapers from nine to ten stories in height.—New York Tribune.

CLASSIFIED ADS

NOTICE—The following announcements are from leading business men and firms, and are well worthy your careful reading. The list may contain just the proposition you are looking for.

REAL ESTATE

EAST GREENACRES

The only tracts on the market where you can contract to sell your crop. Ten trains a day. Abundance of water. Price $150.00 per acre—easy payments—come in or write for particulars.

BEECHER & THOMPSON

Spokane, Washington. 110 Stevens