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CONFECTIONERY.

The Great Chinese Puzzle.

Imagine a language devoid of grammar or syntax; unhampered by declensions, moods, tenses, or inflections of tigue when you found me." any kind; essentially monosyllable; in tence; subject to no rules of logic or construction; a language petrified into solid blocks, and representing human thoughts as a mosiac represents a to-night—I am watchman here. In the morning I will take you to my

The big man stared at the baby, and scanned—and even then you have imagined but a few of the characteristic agined but a few of the characteristic are ver

peculiarities of Chinese.

It has often been said, it is still said. He fixed a resting place for her upon Jack, it was all a mistake. It was my to-day, that the Chinese speak after the fashion of children, directly, straight then went out of the room, leaving here me. I thought him dead, for I had to the point, with an energy of ex- there alone. pression, a directness of purpose, and a natural logic devoid of the artificiality of Occidental tongues. As an example of this child-like simplicity, which we may be pardoned for thinking peculiar, let us take the following

nce. A Chinaman says to us: ·To have -one - (numerical particle) -widow-wife-he-to be-religionfriend-house-within-necessary-to use-all-to have-although-forsooth -not-to count-rich-noble-to arrive-bottom-to pass-to obtain-day

We see at once that in his simple. straight-forward way he meant to say: 'There lived a Christian widow who possessed all that she needed; through not rich, she had enough to live upon. If brevity be the soul of wit, our children of to-day have certainly improved upon the Chinese rendering, though how they might have expressed themselves fifty or sixty centuries ago. when the Chinese language was being invented, we have, of course, no means of knowing. If the parents of that time at all resembled those of to-day,

they would have allowed the children to prattle on unheeded until they knew better, or sent them to bed-or-Well, whoever was right, somebody was wrong. So much for the vaunted simplicity of Chinese. -John Heard, Jr., in Harper's Magazine.

Honored.

sticks" one often heard of in the Connecticut valley half a century ago. In ner calculated to strike terror to the hearts of all evil-doers; but as he grew older his mental vigor waned with his the wharf. physical forces, and it began to be There was a feverish flush on her J. M. RALSTON. whispered around that Elder K— cheeks, and a wild look in her eyes. wasn't "exactly right," which was a She burst into tears at the sight polite and indefinite way of saying that his mind was going from him. He insisted, however, in filling the pulpit he his great paws, and tried to shield her little cold bands in his great paws. had so long filled until his friends were from the storm.

by marching down the aisle and up to

on preaching a terrifying sermon.

men in spite of their years, walked in- er-don't you see? Now, I must be at to the pulpit, seized the struggling and the mill at 5 o'clock. rebellious elder, and started out with ine out satirically:

How much better, after all, am I to housekeeping. treated than my blessed master, for he I have four! Hallelooyer!"-Detroit

A Frank Darky.

numorous darky porter on one of the ried by a stupid old justice in a stuffy Wagner cars that ply between Chicago little office, and went house-hunting the Hotel Columbia. and New York, says the New York Sun. The other day when he appeared fashion. before the passengers, brush in hand, Queensware and Glassware, Lamps and to get them all to stand up and deliver the tenement, where Stella astonished their quarters and half-dollars in the Jack anew each day by some (to him)

A Skating Interlude.

"Six mouths ago it was," said he—
"It seems a century of changes—
Since here beneath this very tree,
We watched the moonlit mountain ranges.
I bate this chattering, skating crowd,
That so profance our silent river.
The sacred spot where once we vowed
A faith that should endure forever!"

"And so me meet again," said he,
"In the same place where then, we parted;
How the old time comes back to me!
The words that left us broken hearted."
Swift fell the answer from her mouth;
"Speak for yourself—if you remember,
The wind blows north that then, blew south,
And June dies long before December!"

"And does a woman's heart," said he,
"Change like the wind or summer weather?
You moon is yet the same, you see,
That shome upon us here together."
"Ah, no!" she said, "that summer moon
Beamed with a radiance mild and tender,
While this forgets the warmth of June.
In winter's fair and frozen splender,"

"And does that mean farewell?" said het "Is it a warning to remember That dream of June can never be Which dies in such a chill December? Your very words!" "Yet, even so." She said, controlling tears and laughter, "Do you forget December snow Melts in the June that follows after?

"But shall I go or stay?" said he,
Searching her face with doubt and wonder;
"And if you care at all for me,
Why play at keeping us asunder?"
"Because"—she smiled, while softly fell
Above her eyes their deep fringed curtain—
"I did not mean, at first, but—well
You seemed so odknisty certain!"
—Kate Putnam Osgood.

OUT IN THE STREET.

It was a wild night in November. The wind rushed howling through the streets of the great city, banging loose shutters and shaking signs in a most reckless fashion.

Over it all the way back, and have come to this conclusion—do you restreets of the great city banging loose member finding the front door open last evening? Your Jack must have come home and caught us kissing each of the virtues of the detacted may be Stella Ray a poor little country other, and straighty waif, staggered along curing before I was an old lover."

"But what should be the should

The clock in a neighborhing steeple struck the hour of midnight as she left the main thoroughfare and turned about by a long brick building with

A dark archway afforded relief from the biting blast, and as she stepped within, a sense of giddiness overcame her, and she sunk unconscious upon the young man wisely made no at-

the cold pavements. When she opened her eyes she found herself in the engine-room of the great mill, seated in an arm-chair. A man was supporting her head and looking at her anxionsly.

He was a young man-twenty-five or time I will take care of you." so, with a pleasant, brown-bearded

He wore a big, shaggy overcoat, and boy came to Stella, but the father was a cap pulled down over his ears in a not there to welcome the small most unbecoming fashion, but he had stranger.
a pair of honest brown eyes, and Stella

It was a bright, January day, quite took courage as she looked at him. "I fear I have made you a great deal of trouble," she said deprecatingly. limbs of the trees along the curbings He made a gesture of dissent.

"You are better," he said, "now tell on so wild a night."

"I had no where to go," she said, along, lifting his chubby feet very "The woman with whom I lived, up high, and squealing out his delight in on so wild a night." river in N-, died a fortnight ago. "I came to the city and tried to get work, but could not. My boarding mistress turned me away because I had

"I have been everywhere to-day for work-I couldn't get a night's shelter ted, as a big, broad-shouldered man without money to pay for it.
"I was half-dead with cold and fa-

While she was talking the man pro- His mother did though, and Carl was P. which the slightest change of pitch in duced a tempting - looking sandwich very indignant when she flew at the the voice completely modifies the sen- from a large tin pail and gave it to man, laughing, and sobbing, and cry- norm men possible for the jury, and

can no longer be read, but must be boarding - place. Perhaps I can find flushed crimson. "You are very good," returned Stel-

> It was warm and clean there, and had been out in the mines and has Stella, utterly worn out, drifted into slumber. But she was awake when Jack Hay-

den came for her in the gray morning. and accompanied him trustingly. Jack commended her to the mercies of his landlady. Mrs. Pike, and after eating his breakfast went off to bed. What was his indignation on getting up at noontime, to find that Mrs. Pike

had turned Stella out! "I couldn't keep her, Mr. Hayden," she explained. "I intend to keep a re- fly Story Paper. spectable house. The engineer says that she was there with you when he arrived at the mill this morning; and according to her own story she was wandering about the streets when you

Honest Jack Hayden stared at her in speechless wrath for a few seconds. "Couldn't you see that she was just an innocent little country girl?" he demanded. "And you turned her into the streets a day like this?"-waving his hand toward the window against which the snow was fiercely driving. "How long has she been gone?"

"Just about one minute," returned Mrs. Pike, shortly. Jack whirled at this, and eatching his hat and overcoat from a nail in the hall, went out of the house like a cy-

He looked up and down the street, Old Elder K- was one of the "odd struggling into his overcoat.

One way led to the river. He fancied he saw a slender figure; younger days he preached the in the gray suit which she wore, movgospel with great vigor and in a man ing slowly in that direction; accordingly he tore away after it. He overtook her just as she reached

She burst into tears at the sight of

compelled to keep him away by force.

One Sunday morning, when his successor was about to begin his sermon Elder K—surprised the congregation in the storm. "Hold up a bit, little girl," he said, after a moment's rapid thought. "I don't see but you and I will have to get married." a prince or a member of any rich, old aristocratic family. The allowances by

Stella gave a little gasp. the pulpit, where he began haranguing "I know," he went on, it seems kind the congregation, regardless of the o' queer and sudden; but I can't have rights and presence of his scandalized you starve or drown yourself. I'll successor. Here was a dilemma. The four Mrs. Pike, and I've been thinking how deacons and others of the brethren nice it would be to go to house-keeping hastily consulted together and Elder with a nice little woman to bake my -was gently remonstrated with, bread and sew on my buttons. I've but all to no purpose. He flatly re- often thought so; but then I don't fused to leave the pulpit, and kept right know many women, and never seemed to feel inclined to ask any one of these Finally the four deacons, vigorous I do know. We sort o' need each oth-

"If you come with me to the magishim on their shoulders. When half trate's office we'll be married right way down the aisle, he still further away; then I can take you to a hotel, scandalized the congregation by bawl- and send my trunk there, and to-morrow we'll hunt up a tenement and go treated than my blessed master, for he had but one ass on which to ride, while Lord help me to do my duty by you." "I guess He wilk, my dear," said Jack, tucking her hand under his rough coat-sleeve. It was so strange—so like a dream

There is an uncommonly frank and to Stella, even though they were mar- an American syndicate, and is expected together next day in the most prosaic Soon they were settled in a cozy lit-

his hand at the mill, came home nuex- F WIT AND HUMOR.

not return home as usual.

What did it mean?

He returned to Stella.

home to have it dressed."

tears which followed.

bright blue of the sky.

Pride must have a fall.

but Carl did not know it.

phasis on the brick pavement.

with brown beard raised him up.

Oh, dear me, set a life!" he ejacula-

ave suffered had he not cared for us."

The Girls Do the Courting.

is the one that does all the courting. When she falls in love with a man

he is unwilling, she remains there hop-ing to coax him into a better mind.

the least discourtesy or turn her out.

Dying in Parisian Hotels.

hotel in Paris. A queer French law

nundred francs was the item recently

demanded from an American family

the judges, however, are generally much

Farming in Spain.

In Spain farming is conducted in a

very primitive way. Grain is cut with a small reaping-hook and thrashed as

in the time of the Casars-that is, by

stone-boat. The plow is a crooked

stick, pointed with iron. In the towns

are to be seen heavy wooden earts

drawn by oxen. Most of the carrying,

Sand, brick, lumber-in fact almost

everything that has to be moved-is

carried on their backs. These animals

passable canyous of the Rocky moun-

The mammoth new American hotel

in London, on the site of the Waterloo

house, will be worked at a rental by

to be opened eighteen months hence as

Australian Railway.

The Hotel Columbia.

transferring, etc., is done by donkeys.

tramping about with asses hitched to a

less than the claims of the landlords.

It is dangerous to let a man die in a

tating or bashful swain

the insult. His best chance, therefore Mr. Lookahead-"Does my daugh-

you break me all up."

But they did not find him.

Weeks and months went by. A baby

den left there last evening, and were

velope for her.

Letting himself into the front entry, It is a wise man who knows enough he stopped on the rag transfixed. to keep it to himself .- Puck. The sitting-room door was ajar, and A "short" speech - "Lend me a quart-

he could see his wife in the arms of a tall, slim young man, while her lips er till to-morrow."-Pittsburg Chroniwere upraised to his. A few seconds Jack stood like a statue, The bartender spends much of his time in drawing to a full.-Washington

and then in a sort of stupor he blun-dered out into the night again, leaving the door wide open. Stella, feeling the sudden draught, When a man lets his face fall it rarely breaks into a smile. - Baltimore went into the entry and closed the door wondering how it had opened If you crack a Kentucky chestnut On the following morning Jack did

you are sure to find a Colonel. -Balli-Just as Stella began to think that she must go and see if anything had happened to him, the postman left an enmore American. How we admire the man who happens to catch us when we are doing a good deed on the sly!-Atchison Globe. On opening it she found a check for The man who thinks quick and

\$300, made payable to Stella V. Hay-den, and signed by her husband. speaks slow will be very apt to get along in the world .- New Orleans Pica-She knew that \$300 was half of Jack's Don't treat a man with contempt belittle savings in the bank; but why did cause he is poor. Simply have noth-

hamlon Herald.

he send it to her now, and why did he ing to do with him .- Philadelphia In-The tall, slim young man was with Strange as it may seem, a man fails her yet; and having listened to what Stella had to say, he went directly to

to support his wife when he is most disposed to sup porter.—Binghamten Here his worst fears were confirmed. In this age of sharp rivalry the man who permits his wits to go wool gath-They tell me at the mill that Hay-

ering is very liable to get worsted .-

much surprised to hear that he had not been at home. I have been puzzling over it all the way back, and have The rooster is one of the most tidy of all members of the animal kingdom.

other, and straightway concluded that characterized as foam on the funeral bier .- Boston Transcript. But what should bring him home Another attempt has been discovered

at that time?" queried Stella, in utter to kill the King of Corea, but the dismay and misery.

"Why, the book-keeper was there in the office last night, and he said that Hayden jammed his hand and came uid-be-assassin was frustrated in his mad Corea. - Boston Herald. "Familiarty breeds contempt." Don't acquire the habit of permitting your

anger to get you, too often, besides yourself.—Philadelphia Press. Riches sometimes fail to bring pop-The young man wisely made no at- ularity. It's not always the man with tempt to check the storm of sobs and the fatest roll that sets 'em up the oftenest.-Philadelphia Inquirer.

He waited until she was quite worn ont and quiet, and then he said:

"Keep up a good heart, little sister; we'll find him in time. In the meanwe'll find him in time. In the mean-"You say your friend died of consumption, quick consumption, I pre-sume." "Well, hardly. He lived in Philadelphia."—Minneapolis Tribune. "Ma, the minister is coming."
"What makes you think so? Did you see him?" "No; but I saw pa take the It was a bright, January day, quite mild for the season, and the brown

parrot and lock it up in the stable."made a pretty net-work against the Zola announces that in a few years Stella moved slowly down the quiet he will devote himself exclusively to me how you came on the streets so late street, thinking how like Jack was the the stage. In the meantime the stage should get out an injunction, - Balli-more American,

However much the American girl may satirize the foreign "Lord," it is observed that, whatever her profession, Carl stepped on a bit of ice presentshe clings with hooks of steel to the tily, and down he came with much em- tle of "Lady."-Puck.

priate present for me to give to my typewriter girl?" Braggs — "If she's anything like mine I would recommend This man had eves just like his own, a spelling-book." - Terre Haute Ex-

> then speak of trying the poor unfor-Transcript. run off. How foolish in her to leave a

"Stella, whose boy is this?" he asked. good home like this. Don't you think "Yours, Jack!" cried Stella joyfully. She'll regret it?" Mrs. Simpson—"Yes; my husband went with her."— "Yours, Jack!" cried Stella joyfully. "Don't be look like you? And oh, Marjorie-"Aren't you afraid that your flagrant coquetry may drive some heard nothing from him for years. He your admirers to desperation?" Ethel-"It is a matter of indifference made money-baby Carl and I would to me so long as they don't die in the

Don't mention it little woman-Wife (to husband at the end of a 'spat") - 'The fools ain't all dead yet.' And Jack kissed her right there, to Husband—"They ain't, ch?" Wife the irreverent hijarity of two ragged "No, or I would have the amount of gamins who were watching him from your insurance polley before this."oston Courier. Baby Carl rode home in triumph on

Jack's shoulder, and gravely an-nounced to his Uncle Charlie: Mr. Silby, I should think you would get lonesome." He-"O, no, I enjoy "I'se got a dandy new papa."-Faming by myself," See (thoughtfully) "I don't see how you can."-Burlington Free Press. The consistent minister will not In the Ukraine, Russia, the maiden preach steadily for two hours upon the iquity of lying and then blandly ask

one of the leading members of the cou-

She-"You are such a solitary man.

she goes to his house and tells him the gregation how he liked the sermon .state of her feelings. If he recipro-cates all is well, and a formal marerville Journal. Harry-"And dearest, do you think riage is duly arranged. If, however, of me all the day long?" Dearest—"I did. Harry; but the days are getting longer now, and of course-well, you The poor fellow cannot treat her with know that that must make some difference."-Boston Transcript. for her friends would be sure to avenge

if he is really determined that he won't is to leave his home and stay away as long as she is in it. This is certainly a your business is increasing so that you very peculiar way of turning a man can soop support us in the style we out of the house and home. On the both like."—Munsey's Weekly. isthmus of Darien either sex can do the "I am well aware," said the tramp courting, with the natural result that to the facetious gentleman he had ac-

almost everybody gets married. There costed, "that one swallow does not is not quite the same chance where the make a summer; but I would like to girl has to bide the motions of a hesi- have enough to mitigate the rigors of the present climate a little."-Puck. Mr. Lushforth - "You never help me on with my coat like you used to in the days of our honeymoon." Mrs. Lushforth-"No? And I never had to

enables the landford to present his bill help you off with your boots in those to the relatives for the death. Several days, either."-Terre Haute Express. "I swear by those tall elms in yondep park-" he commenced, but she interrupted him. "Swear not by them," she said imploringly. "Why not?" Because those trees are slippery person had died of a contagious disase, and doubled if the deceased was

elms," she said simply .- Boston Beacon Husband-"Maria, you are an awful long time in giving me the change out of that \$20 bill I gave you last Thursday." His Wife—"You should recollect, Jack, that I used to clerk in a down-town store."-Detroit Free Press. Wife (to hubby, who has been out

the night before)—"Why, my dear, what makes you look so sour this morning?" Hubby—"I drank three glasses of milk last night and got caught in a thunder-storm coming home."-N. Y. Herald. "After all," said De Broot's little wife as she sat down to rest after finishing every bit of an arduous round of housework, "there's no place like home," "No," said De Broot as he

picked up his hat, "and I'm dog-goned glad of it."-Merchant Traveler. are used all through Spain, and for Mrs. Potts-"And you say Mr. Withevery purpose, in the same way in ers never swears when things go wrong around the house?" Mrs. Withers-"Very seldom, at least. The only thing that will make him swear is to find one of Bob Ingersoll's wicked speeches in the Sunday paper."—Terre Haute Express.

Lawyer-"You say you think the witness is a wholesale liar. What do you mean by a wholesale fiar?" Wit--. Well, he is a man who would not tell a single lie for a nickel, but would tell a dozen for a half dollar; or One of the great feats of the railway a dozen dozen - gross' falsehoods, you know-for \$5."-Detroit Journal.

engineering of the time is being per-formed in nor bern Queensland. A Lamp Fixtures.

Lamp Fixtures. line is being constructed from Cairns to the tin mines of Herbertstown. It is

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to use on the engine invented by the other."-N. Y. Sun. "I get up at daylight," repeated the and receive ten samples that early rising crank, for the 999th time. will make you more money in a week "I can't see how any one can want to than anything ever offered. something. "Certainly." relief it must be to your family."-

Philadelphia Inquirer. Worms That Eat Steel Rails.

For the last two years the German government has been making inquiries into the life, history, and ravages of one of the most remarkable worms known to exist, says the St. Louis Re-public. This wonderful creature, whose gluttonous appetite is only satisfied after a feed on common steel, was brought into notice by an article in the PADDING CEMENT ETC.

Cologne Gazette in June, 1887. For some time preceding the publication of the account mentioned the greatest consternation existed among the engineers employed on the railway at Hagen, on account of the accidents which always occurred at the same place, proving that some terrible defect must exist either in the material or the construction of the rails.

the purpose of maintaining a constant covered the ground. watch at the spot where the accidents—one of them attended with loss of life had occurred. It was not, however, dreamed of the scene of disaster that until after six months had elapsed that would soon be witnessed. The small

of over 100 yards. The rail was taken up and broken, whereupon it was found to be literally whereupon it was found to be literally the cozy little station house, ever and honeycombed by a thin, thread-like amon talking to herself. "Polly want gray worm. The worm is said to be a cracker; Pretty Poll." two centimetres in length and of about Then with a wise shake of her head she needle. It is of a gray color, and on telephone, rang, and receiving the anthe head it carries two little sacs or swering ring shouted, "Send down 113." glands, filled with a most powerful corrosive secretion, which is ejected every ten minutes when the little demon is lying undisturbed. This liquid when squirted upon iron renders that metal soft and spongy, and of the color of rust, when it is easily and greedily decomposed by the little area of the color of rust, when it is easily and greedily decomposed by the little area of the color of rust, when it is easily and greedily decomposed by the little area of the color of rust, when it is easily and greedily decomposed by the little area of the color of rust, when it is easily and greedily decomposed by the little area of the color of rust, when it is easily and greedily decomposed by the little area of the color of rust, when it is easily and greedily decomposed by the color of rust, when it is easily and greedily decomposed by the color of rust, when it is easily and greedily decomposed by the color of rust, when it is easily and greedily decomposed by the color of rust, when it is easily and greedily decomposed by the color of rust, when it is easily and greedily decomposed by the color of rust, when it is easily and greedily decomposed by the color of rust, when it is easily and greedily decomposed by the color of rust, when it is easily and greedily decomposed by the color of rust, when it is easily and greedily decomposed by the color of rust, when it is easily and greedily decomposed by the color of rust when the little decomposed by the color of rust when the little decomposed by the color of rust when the little decomposed by the color of rust when the little decomposed by the color of rust when the little decomposed by the color of rust when the little decomposed by the color of rust when the little decomposed by the color of rust when the little decomposed by the color of rust when the little decomposed by the little decomposed devoured by the little insect. is no exaggeration," says the official senger train was due. When it was report, "in the assertion that this creanearly time for the train to come the Briggs-"What would be an approture is one of the most voracious, for rails in a fortnight."

A DOG AS A MAIL-GARRIER.

ance of His Mission. The way the dog became a mailtunate by a jury of his peers. - Boston carrier was as follows, says a letter in the Ohio Farmer: One day the postmaster wanted to send a word to his prother at Bismarck, but did not want to make the trip. It occured to him to try the dog. He wrote a letter and tied it around the dog's neck, pointing the dog's nose toward Bismarck and then told him to go. He trotted off a short distance and then turned about to see what else was wanted. Some of the small boys showered stones at him and he ran on to Bismarek. Next day he returned with an answer tied on his neck and he showed that he had been well treated. The experiment was repeated, each time with success and additional dignity on the part of the dog.

As soon as it became known that Dorsey could be depended upon requests were constantly made by the miners to send their mail by him. The oads soon increased, and it became wident that they could not tie on all the letters. The miners then ordered a handsome little mail-bag and fitted it to the dog's shoulders. It is fastened around his chest by one strap, and around his body back of the forelegs, by another. He has never missed a trip for about three years or lost a letter. Now, when the stage comes in. he gets up, stretches himself, walks to the postoflice, waits to have the mail

Sam Summers, the negro prodigy, was in Shelbyville yesterday, says the Louisville Commercial, and as usual entertained a large crowd, who were testing him with all kinds of mathematical problems. Summers is a colored man. 34 years old, without the day farm-hand, and, to look at him and watch his actions, he seems to be ample in arithmetic, no matter difficult, is simply wonderful. With failed to give the correct answer in

Some examples given him yesterday were: How much gold can be bought for \$792 in greenbacks if gold is worth \$1.65? Multiply 597.312 by 13 5-8. If grain of wheat produces seven grains, and these be sown the second year. each yielding the same increase, how many bushels will be produced at this rate in twelve years if 1,000 grains make a pint? If the velocity of sound is 1,142 feet per second, the pulsation of the heart seventy per minute, after seeing a flash of lightning there are twenty pulsations counted before you hear it thunder, what distance is the cloud from the earth, and what is the time after seeing the flash of lightning until you hear the thunder? A commission merchant received seventy bags of wheat, each containing three bushels, three pecks and three quarts; how many bushels did he receive? And

With Robinson's, Ray's, and other higher arithmetics before them, those who have tested him as yet have been unable to find any example that, with a few moments' thought on his part, he is not able to correctly answer. The Tiber.

Most of the old houses on both sides of the Tiber, at Rome, have been removed, fine embankments of masonry have been erected, slightly deepening and widening the river to an average width of sixty-live yards, and on top of the embankments, on both sides, es- five feet long that weighed forty planades are formed as on the Thames pounds. It was the biggest wildcar embankment at London. One of the that has been shot in the state. Skiff new bridges crossing the stream is killed the animal in the air as it was McFingle - Do you know that seedy thirteen yards wide, and near it at springing at him.

lie in bed after they have woke up. new, durable and profitable. Send at Then I—" "Get out of the house as once to Northwesters String Co., No. soon as possible, I suppose?" put in the tired listener, for the sake of saying STAR COMPOSITION CO.,

> Printers' Rollers. Roller Composition

Roller Casting a Specialty.

"SEND DOWN II3." How a Parrot Caused a Railroad Aceident in the Far West-

1107 Fourth St., East Portland, Or.

Out in the far west on one cold night The government became interested in January a horrible accident oc and sent a commission to the spot for cured. Snow several feet in depth The little town of B-was perfectly quiet, and not one of its inhabitants

the surface of the rails appeared to be station house was for the time deserted, corroded, as if by acid, to the extent says the Philadelphia Times, the station-master having gone to the store not far distant. Poll sat all alone in the bigness of a common knitting- flew to a shelf that was just above the Jerome, a small town not many miles "There distant. In about half an hour the passtation-master thought that he heard it has devoured thirty-six kilograms of the noise of a train in each direction. but concluding that he was mistaken he did not trouble himself to look out. In The Canine Seems to Realize the Import. passed up, but it did not stop, and in another moment a fearful crash was heard, a piercing shriek rang out upon the night air, and then piteous groans were heard. Snatching up a lantera the station-master burried out. A fearful scene was before him. The freight train attached to the engine 113 had

come into collision with the passenger gineers were killed and five passengers were injured seriously. In a short time the whole town was astir. The injured were cared for and an engine arrived and pushed the broken cars on a side track. Much excitement prevailed through-out the town. The people wondered who it was who had telephoned the station-master at Jerome. They did not solve the mystery for many a long day and both station -masters very nearly lost their situa-tions, but as nothing could be proved against them they were allowed to remain. One evening in June as the station-master at—sat dozing in his chair he was aroused by hearing the telephone ring. Looking up he saw Poll sitting on the shelf above the telephone and heard her call out in her shrill voice: "Send down 113."

At last the mystery had been solved. Nature's Kind Provision.

The color of a great many animals evidently serves to conceal them either strapped on him, and starts on as soon as he is told all is ready. He will go a long way around to avoid meeting a stranger, seeming to realize the improvement of his mission.

open provided in animals cast the russet coat of summer for the snowy one of winter, and some peculiar Alpine species undergo similar changes. The ermine, the hare, similar changes are examples, while in the depths of the forest or in the the ice bear, which is supreme in the northern waters, and therefore does not require a protection of that kind, by being white is enabled more easily to approach its prey. Several birds, like the ptarmigan, also change their plumage, and the young of seals are born with white pelts, which they change for

On the other hand, the summer plumage of the grouse, like the similar coat of the partridge, is equally favor-

Five hundred million feet of logs are cut in the State of Maine annually. The name Pine Tree State was acquired years ago, but Spruce Tree State would now be more appropriate. Although shere are millius of pine yet standing, the palmy days of that tree, in a commercial sense, long since departed, and the spruce, prolific and hardy, is the mainstay of the lumber trade. Whatever the case may be in other States Maine has nothing to fear from the denudation of her uplands. The spruce is a prolific tree, renewing its growth in a few years, thus filling up the gaps made by the lumberman's ax, and soon producing a second growth or aftermath. Many townships on the Penobscot have been lumbered over twice and some three times, while in Hancock county there is more timber standing to-day than there was twenty years ago. Fresh Water Pearls.

family of mollusks known as "milos," or fresh water mussels, the same that abounded at one time in the rivers of

In the last twenty years more than

\$100,000 worth of pearls have been found in the United States in that

A Big Wildcat. Peter Skiff a veteran hunter of North Kent, Conu., recently shot a wildeat

bee trees during last summer and fall,

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slightest education. He can not read darker ones as soon as they are capaor write and does not know one figure ble of living independently of their from another. He is a common, every- mother. and watch his actions, he seems to be feathers of the ptarmigan are well about half-witted, but his quick and adapted for a bird roosting on liebeninvariably correct answer to any ex- covered rocks, while the heather-hued the hundreds of tests that he has sub-mitted to not a single time has he ruthless enemies. -London Standard. every instance.

The Timber of Maine.